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# yourmedway

THE NEWSPAPER FOR CHATHAM, GILLINGHAM, ROCHESTER, STROOD, RAINHAM & DISTRICT

[yourmedway.co.uk](http://yourmedway.co.uk)



Issue No 97

Available from Wednesday,  
July 22, 2009

**NHS**

*Eastern and Coastal Kent*

**protect...**



**you and...**



**your family**



**for summer...**



50  
top  
tips

# stay safe for summer

SPENDING TIME OUTDOORS IS A GREAT WAY TO REVITALISE BODY AND SOUL.  
HERE ARE YOUR HEALTH'S TOP **50** TIPS ON HOW TO DO IT SAFELY

## Stay safe in the sun

As soon as the warm weather arrives we all want to go out and enjoy it – and why shouldn't we? We all spend far too much time in air conditioned offices gazing wistfully out of the window.

But whether we are enjoying some sun in the Med or in our back garden we still need to protect ourselves.

Skin cancer is one of the most common cancers in the UK. Right now, around 1,700 people are being treated for malignant melanoma and other skin cancers in the eastern and coastal Kent region.

Most skin cancers are caused by damage from sunburn and could easily be prevented.

1. Apply sunblocks or sunscreens with high sun protection factors (at least factor 15).
2. Take extra care with children – use factor 30 plus. For babies use factor 50 plus.
3. Apply generously and reapply frequently, especially after activities such as swimming or towelling.
4. Wear a wide-brimmed hat to reduce exposure to the face, eyes, head and neck.
5. Limit the amount of time you spend in the sun, particularly between 11am and 3pm.



6. Cover skin with clothing giving good protection - examples are longsleeved shirts and loose clothing with a close weave.
7. Seek shade, but remember sunburn can occur even when in partial shade or when cloudy.
8. Wear wrap-around sunglasses.
9. Remember certain prescribed drugs, medicines, foods, cosmetics and plant materials can also make people more sensitive to sunlight.

## Coping with sunburn

Sunburn is when your skin overheats and becomes red and painful and may later peel or blister.

If you get sunburn:

- Cool the skin down by dabbing it with a cool, wet towel or tissue.
- If really bad, take a quick cold shower.
- Don't go back into the sun until you've healed.
- Drink plenty of fluids to replace the water lost through sweating and to cool down.
- Apply calamine or after-sun lotion.
- For adults, painkillers such as paracetamol or ibuprofen can help relieve pain and reduce swelling.

## Be prepared for a heatwave

IT'S not just the sun that can be our foe as well as our friend. Continued humidity, especially during a heatwave, can be dangerous too.

The heat can affect anyone, but some people run a greater risk of serious harm, especially the very young, older people and those with serious illnesses.

It can make heart and respiratory problems worse and in extreme cases can lead to heat stroke, which can be fatal.

To stay safe:

10. Keep an eye on children, vulnerable friends and neighbours.
11. Keep plenty of water to hand and stay in the shade where possible.
12. Shut and shade windows when it is hotter outside and open them for ventilation when cooler.
13. Avoid doing things that need lots of effort like sport, DIY or gardening.
14. People with serious health problems (for example heart conditions), should avoid going out in the heat, especially between 11am and 3pm.





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Helping you make  
the right choice

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Kia's little gem  
has got more Soul

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Round-up of all  
the local action

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# CHANGE IS OVERDUE IN PARKING POLICY

## WHAT'S ON & WATCH

[yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk)



**MAGIC:** Wizard-in-training Harry Potter makes his sixth big screen appearance. Search 'film'

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## POWER POP TO THE PEOPLE

Energetic power pop quartet McFly rocked a capacity crowd of 4,500 at Rochester Castle Gardens on Friday night, performing chart hits including Obviously, One for the Radio and Lies. Their set - watched by thousands of screaming teenage fans - was the third night of the four-gig summer concerts programme. Tribute band the Counterfeit Stones got the ball rolling last Wednesday, followed by Jools Holland. The concerts were brought to a close by the popular Castle Proms night. For more on the concerts turn to page three and visit [www.yourkenttv.co.uk](http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk)

## EXCLUSIVE

■ BY GARETH DORRIAN

PENNY-pinching council chiefs are refusing to install parking machines that give change, claiming new ticket terminals would pose a health and safety risk to car park users.

Medway Council operates 120 machines across the towns. Not one offers change, meaning motorists without the correct coins are often forced to pay over the odds.

Council bosses say machines giving change are too large, taking up "a large percentage of the path", and would be a target for thieves and vandals.

But the claims have been attacked by motoring groups. The Association of British Drivers' Nigel Humphries said: "It's disgraceful. Local authorities put charges at awkward amounts, such as £1.05 instead of £1, which can guarantee to get a bit more money out of someone."

"At the very least the amount should be a round number."

"It's a nasty trick. Even making you put your licence plate number in the machine is antisocial, because you can't give your ticket to someone else if you leave early."

"There's not much courtesy left in Britain and the little there is is being destroyed by mean-spirited local authorities. Everything they do is aimed at making drivers feel guilty."

But a Medway Council official said: "Machines in car parks and on the street can-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



## Salon One True Salon

34-36 High Street Rochester 880900

Due to an unprecedented demand James is back on the tools Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. To book an appointment with the guy that trains national champions call 880900



# WHAT'S ON & WATCH

## yourkenttv.co.uk

### TOP TV CLIPS



**1** Dolly Rockers brought some glamour to the weekend's Thanet Pride event in Margate. Search 'Dolly'



**2** Joanna Lumley was guest of honour when the Gurkhas were given the Freedom of Folkestone. Search 'Joanna'



**3** First Battalion The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment march through Canterbury on Saturday. Search 'soldiers'

**SEE OUR SISTER PAPERS KENT ON SUNDAY AND THE SATURDAY EDITION FOR ALL THE WEEKEND'S COUNTY NEWS AND SPORT**

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Picture: ALEX TURNER

**SNAPPING:** This picture was taken just before Alex Turner was handcuffed and led away by the police

# Arrested - for being too tall

A PHOTOGRAPHER has been arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act for being 'too tall'.

Amateur snapper Alex Turner was in Chatham High Street when he was handcuffed and carted off to a police van before finally being officially released.

Writing on his blog, Mr Turner explained how the scandal started and how it ended with him submitting an official complaint to the force's Professional Standards Department.

He said: "I went down to Chatham High Street to take some pictures of the flyover being demolished."

#### Vigilant

In his complaint, he wrote that on July 8, a police officer "placed me under arrest in Chatham High Street."

The officer stated I was being arrested under section 44 of the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2000 and read me my rights. As I was arrested I was handcuffed. I asked why she had arrested me.

"She stated because I had taken a photograph of her and that she considered this to be an unlawful obstruction. I was detained in a police van for around 20 minutes.

"The arrest was made after I photographed her while waiting as she

■ BY CHRIS MURPHY

spoke to a colleague on the phone," he wrote.

Mr Turner was initially stopped by two men in the High Street saying they were from Medway Council. They called the community officers who arrested him for being a potential terrorist.

Mr Turner was searched before being 'de-arrested'.

He said the female officer said she was "intimidated" by Mr Turner's size – he is 5ft 11ins tall and weighs about 12 stone.

Afterwards, he wrote: "She offered a verbal apology. I asked if I was free to continue to take pictures in the High Street, she informed me I was."

Assistant Chief Constable Allyn Thomas said: "Our officers are extremely vigilant and their primary concern is the safety of the public."

"A police officer responded to a report concerning a man who was taking photographs of buildings and people in Chatham town centre.

"When challenged by the police officer the man refused to give personal details."

After Mr Turner complained, Kent Police referred the matter to the Independent Police Complaints Commission, which has sent it back to the Kent Police for investigation.

• Email [yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk)

## yourmedway NEWS IN BRIEF

### Three await sentence for drugs charges

THREE men are due to be sentenced later this month after pleading guilty to a number of drug offences.

Alan Downes, 36, Craig Ethridge, 23, and Zac Wallace, 19, all of Chatham, appeared before Maidstone Crown Court on Monday, when they pleaded guilty to all charges.

Downes, of Sturla Road, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to supply a class A drug (crack cocaine and heroin), possession of a class B drug (cannabis) and possession of a weapon (stun gun).

Ethridge and Wallace, both of Thorold Road, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to supply a class A drug (crack cocaine and heroin).

The trio will re-appear before Maidstone Crown Court on Friday, July 31.

### Get backstage pass for tour of theatre

THEATRE-fans will be given a rare opportunity to see behind the scenes of Medway's biggest cultural venues this weekend.

The Central Theatre, Chatham, will run free backstage tours this Sunday.

The free tours pass through the stage, lighting and control box and dressing rooms.

The tours start at 10am, with the last one setting off at 3.30pm. Tours last for approximately 40 minutes and there is no need to book.

### Hear story behind award-winning film

FILMMAKER Paul Watson will tell the story of how he shot award-winning documentary Rain in My Heart – the hard-hitting story of four Medway alcoholics.

Mr Watson will be joined by gastroenterologist consultant Dr Gray Smith-Laing at Medway Maritime Hospital's postgraduate centre from 7pm tonight.

Members can book their place on 01634 825292 or by emailing the membership office at [kristy.derbeck@medway.nhs.uk](mailto:kristy.derbeck@medway.nhs.uk)



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# Swine flu not cause of seven-year-old's death

## Tests yet to find reason boy died

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

A SEVEN-year-old Medway schoolboy who passed away last week died of natural causes, it has been confirmed.

The Strood youngster – who has not been named – was initially thought to have contracted the deadly swine flu virus.

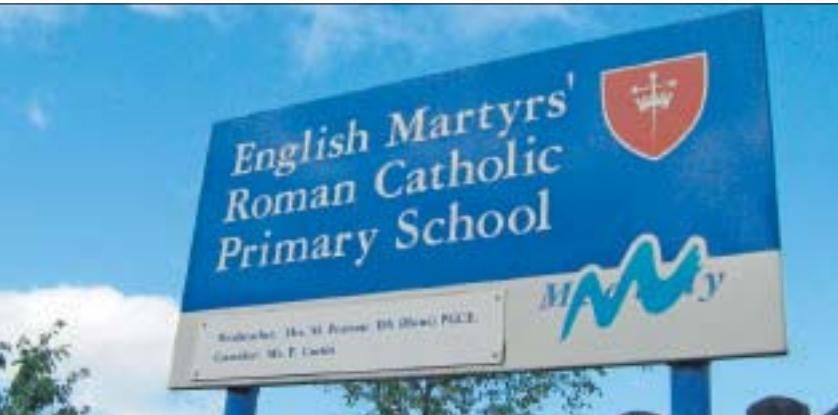
National newspapers reported that a Medway boy had become one of the youngest children to die from the lethal H1N1 strain.

But a spokesman for Medway Coroner's Office confirmed that the English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School pupil's death was completely unrelated to the virus.

They said: "The only information we can give out at this time is that the boy's death had nothing to do with swine flu. The post-mortem report shows he died of natural causes."

The boy's death created an outpouring of grief from his fellow pupils, parents, teachers and the wider community.

Comments posted on our website include: "This little boy was in the same class as my son and I can't express enough my sincere condo-



**IN MOURNING:** Pupils and staff at English Martyrs' Roman Catholic School are grief-stricken by death of the little boy

lences to his family. He was much loved and is missed by his classmates."

Medway Council's children and adult services director Rose Collinson held a press conference outside the council's Chatham headquarters on Friday – three days after the young pupil is thought to have died.

She said: "Our first thoughts are with the boy, his family and all of his friends. We want to make sure his family have privacy to grieve.

"The Health Protection Agency has said the earliest indications are that he did not die of swine flu. We simply do not know the cause of death and cannot speculate at this time.

"It is my understanding that he did not feel

well at school on Tuesday and that he died quite suddenly.

"As soon as the school heard of his death the entire school community was informed.

"The school remained open as normal, as was the advice from the HPA. Their investigation into the boy's death is incomplete."

Yvonne Doyle, regional director of public health, NHS South East Coast, added: "We are aware of the case of a seven-year-old who died on Tuesday. The child was admitted to hospital. The cause of death has not been confirmed and we are awaiting test results."

A remembrance Mass was held at the English Martyrs Roman Catholic Church yesterday.

## Change long overdue, say overcharged motorists

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE  
not offer change for two reasons; many machines are vandalised and the size of the machine required to give change would make this a health and safety risk to users of the car park.

"The area needed to provide these would require all car parks to be redesigned and the machines would take up a large percentage of the path on the street.

### Tariffs

"Machines that give change are considerably bigger and need mains power. They would not allow enough room for prams or wheelchairs to pass safely."

"The council has taken every measure to ensure Medway's parking facilities are clean and easy to use. Our car parks are inspected annually by Park Mark, which ensures they are run in a safe and fair manner. All tariffs are clearly displayed on all machines."

• What do you think? Write to the editor, Yourmedway, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR. Or email [yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk).



## Airport celebrates 75th year with free open day

ROCHESTER Airport is holding a free open day this weekend to celebrate the site's 75th anniversary.

Highlights of the day include flights in a Dragon Rapide plane and displays from Kent police's helicopter, motorcycle and dog teams.

Model helicopter enthusiast Len Mount – winner of 19 national flying championships – will be among those to display their model aircrafts.

A host of vintage and classic motor-cycles and cars will also be driven on to the Maidstone Road site.

The airport's operations manager Kelvin Carr said he was looking forward to Sunday's festivities.

He said: "We can't wait for the anniversary celebrations to begin."

"Our thanks go to the local community for their continued support during the past and future years."

"Without it this airport would have become another West Malling; once closed never to be opened again."

The site first became used for aviation purposes in September, 1933, when Rochester City Council bought the land from a farmer to build a municipal airport.

One month later the Short brothers, who had started building aircraft on the Isle of Sheppey in 1909, asked for permission to lease the land for test flying.

In 1979, GEC took over management of the site, maintaining two grass runways.

This remained the case until four years ago when a group of flying enthusiasts negotiated a short-term lease with the council, which is due to expire in January.

The open day runs from 10.30am to 3.30pm. Parking is limited.

## Thousands storm castle to see McFly

POP rockers McFly performed a storming set at Rochester Castle during the annual summer concerts.

The chart-topping quartet headlined the four-night concerts' third night, playing to a sell-out crowd. More than 2,000 teenage fans – and a few thousand less enthusiastic parents – crammed into Rochester Castle Gardens for the gig.

The four McFly boys did not disappoint their adoring fans, working their way through the bulk of their back catalogue.

Rolling Stones cover band Counterfeit Stones drew a near capacity crowd for their opening night show, supported by the world's foremost thrash mandolin player, former Young Ones star Ade Edmondson.

Jools Holland made his seventh consecutive Castle Concerts appearance on Friday night and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra played at the rousing Castle Proms night on Saturday.

**VIEW THIS CLIP ON**

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Your LOCAL TV ONLINE



See footage of McFly performing at Rochester Castle. Search 'McFly'

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## Fifty years showing sheep and counting

AT Nash Court, Westwell, George Horne runs the oldest registered flock of the famous Romney sheep.

An acknowledged expert, he received a special presentation to mark his half century of showing and he also celebrated winning the breed championship in the main livestock parade ring with his daughters Catherine and Louise.

The supreme championship again returned to Lewes with another magnificent Southdown from the flock of Sarah Harmer with a Charrolais from Gloucester as reserve.

But Kent exhibitors did well with Joe Phillips from Petham, Canterbury, having the champion Romney ram, Viv Miles from Benenden the champion British Down with David Masters from Goudhurst reserve, Mr and Mrs Ed Lovejoy from Woodchurch the best Poll Dorset, Gail Shrubsall from Otterden, Faversham, the best other pure bred with her Welsh Badger Face Torwen, and Louise Brown from Ramsgate the champion Jacob.

## Cattle champion milks the applause

THE supreme cattle championship again left the county with the dairy champion Jersey from Norfolk catching the judges eye and pipping the beef champion, a giant Simmental from East Sussex, for top prize.

But both were run close in the final decision, with a British Blue from Andrew Price of Maidstone reserve beef champion and a Holstein from the Benenden herd of John Reynolds the dairy reserve.

In the British Blondes section all the awards were collected by Egerton-based Hilary Jones and Ben Garrett.

May Henderson from Throwley was again among the winners from her Dexter herd, with Di Smith from Alkham, Dover, adding to her collection of reserve rosettes.

John Reynolds took the silverware in the Holstein classes beating veteran Folkestone exhibitor Jim Warnock into second spot.

Champion Jersey went to Sonny Warren of Guston, near Dover, with the Etteridge family from Norfolk in reserve spot and it was something of a shock when the supreme champion judge selected the latter as his overall winner.

## Winner's pig effort

PAULINE Banks from Sevenoaks took the pig championship with her large white crosses but had to settle for reserve spot beaten by a Berkshire from Charles Bull from Peasmash in the open classes.

The 80th Kent County Show over the weekend was as spectacular as ever and the message from Detling was loud and clear – forget the rumours, we will be back...

■ BY MIKE BENNETT

THE sights, sounds and smells of the traditional Kent County Agricultural Show will survive and thrive despite fears it could be threatened with closure.

That was the strong message from show chairman George Jessel on Sunday after three fantastic days at Detling when he stressed that despite the economic recession, expansion of ploughing matches, game and country shows, and the threat of a major new event at Folkestone racecourse next summer, they will continue.

He said: "Forget the rumours. We will be back and the dates are fixed from July 16 to 18, 2010. The Royal Show may have been the last, but we will continue".

He accepts that after a £160,000 loss last year the organisers were forced to prune budgets. But they still managed to showcase Kent and all that it has to offer in the biggest three-day event of the year.

"The focus is always on agriculture with the animals and associated country crafts and displays.

"But we aim to provide a great family day out with something for all. Flower and food tents plus arcades of shopping for the ladies, veteran and vintage vehicles for the men, rides and attractions for children, and arena and equestrian events for all."

### Improved

"To say that farmers no longer support the show is nonsense. Sheep and goat entries were well up and 55 per cent of the county's farmers were here actively involved in the show as exhibitors or stewards.

"We had 70 new Kent business exhibitors this year and many did good trade and have already booked to return next summer. We have improved the traffic problems and we will do more for the future."

As a deputy to Lord Lieutenant of Kent and a farmer he is passionate about the county and in his role as head of the premier agricultural showcase was delighted with the support of farmers and growers from across the Garden of England to provide a shop window for their skills to 90,000 plus visitors.

None did more to confirm the determination to plan for the future than the magnificent efforts of young farmers in an expanded area.

With a team of more than 400 from schools and open clubs across the county they represented the largest gathering of young people

# The show will go on



Pictures: GORKA KIPCO

**DAY AT THE RACES:** Competitors gathered from far and wide at the county's annual agricultural extravaganza

showing cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry and rabbits in Europe.

That fact was noted by royal guests the Earl and Countess of Wessex who requested they be given a tour of the area during their visit on Friday.

They met many of the youngsters as they were escorted by show chairman Eve Hart and county Young Farmers Club chairman Stuart Jackman.

Miss Hart said: "It was an honour for us all and they were impressed by the efforts of all

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**ANIMAL MAGIC:** Youngsters enjoyed the largest display of livestock held anywhere in Europe



**BROLLY GOOD SHOW:** The Earl and Countess of Wessex were given a guided tour of the show on the Friday



**SHOWCASE:** Display of vintage farming machinery was a timely reminder of the county's rich rural heritage

the young people of Kent".

That praise continued at the prize giving on Sunday afternoon when Mr Jessel told them they all played an important role in the future of rural industry.

He said: "The royalty were really chuffed that you were all so brilliant and on behalf of Kent County Agricultural Society I thank you all for participating."

Judges had faced tough tasks as the clubs produced top-quality stock in the rings.

The coveted trophy for most points over the three days of competition went again to Homewood School, Tenterden, but this year by a single point ahead of Westlands School with Angley at Cranbrook in third.

Homewood also took special awards for the champion turnout lamb, the champion pen of lambs, reserve champion pen of pigs, reserve champion rabbit and four trophies for their calves.

Westlands had the champion poultry, champion pure bred and cross bred beef calves, the champion dairy calf and won the prize for the best presented club.

Almost every team won something as the honours were spread across the county with the under threat Ashford North school farm producing the champion turn-out lamb and collecting the cup for the best club display, Brockhill, Hythe, picked up an armful of trophies, and Ashford Young Farmers showed both the supreme turnout champion and the champion turn-out lamb.

They were all the finest examples of farmyard stock but over in the countryside area there were more exotic creatures like reindeer and wallaby being shown by the Fagg family from Betherston, surrounded by dancing sheep, working gun dogs, hawking demonstrations and ferret and terrier racing.

## Pavilion packed out for 80th anniversary

TO celebrate 80 years of the show the Kent pavilion was packed with a colourful and diverse display of history remembering the past eight decades.

Farming World from Faversham illustrated progress through the years and the Friends of the Museum of Kent Life from Maidstone highlighted old domestic items with their modern day equivalent.

West Kent WIs displayed changes in home economics plus cooking and flower demonstrations, and the Kent Guild of Spinners and Weavers impressed with their craft.

Brook Agricultural Museum showed a vintage plough, five bushel hop baskets, a cultivator and chaff-cutter from their collection, and the National Fruit Collection at Brogdale concentrated on the history of cherries.

## Hadlow shows off its award-winning flora

FRESH from winning the gold medal and best sustainable garden awards at the Hampton Court Palace Flower Show, Hadlow College were again among the honourees at the Kent show.

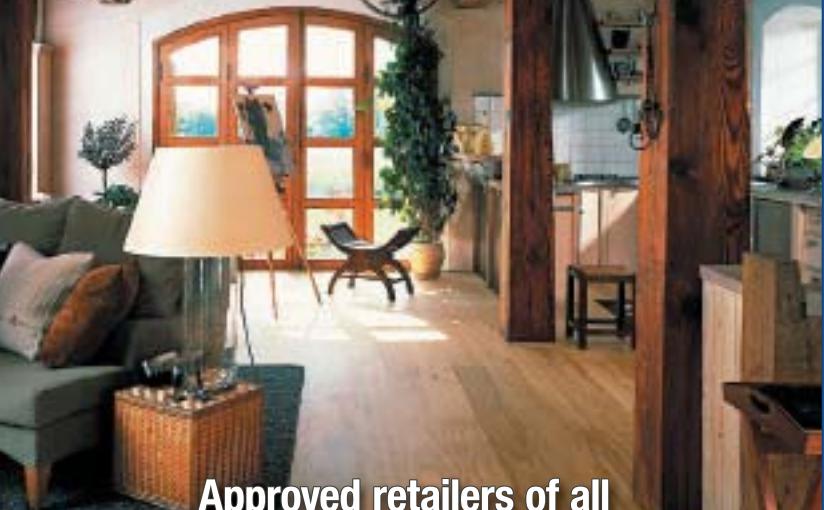
They took the gold award for best outdoor garden design and the gold for sweet pea exhibits.

Their main display took the Geerings award for the best agricultural stand for the second year running, and they also supported the NFU and Kent Agricultural Society in the Why Farming Matters area, as well as competing in the livestock and equine classes.

Spokesman Pat Crawford said: "Hadlow is one of the UK's top three land-based colleges providing the skills, training and knowledge for those planning a career in one of the most important industries in Kent".

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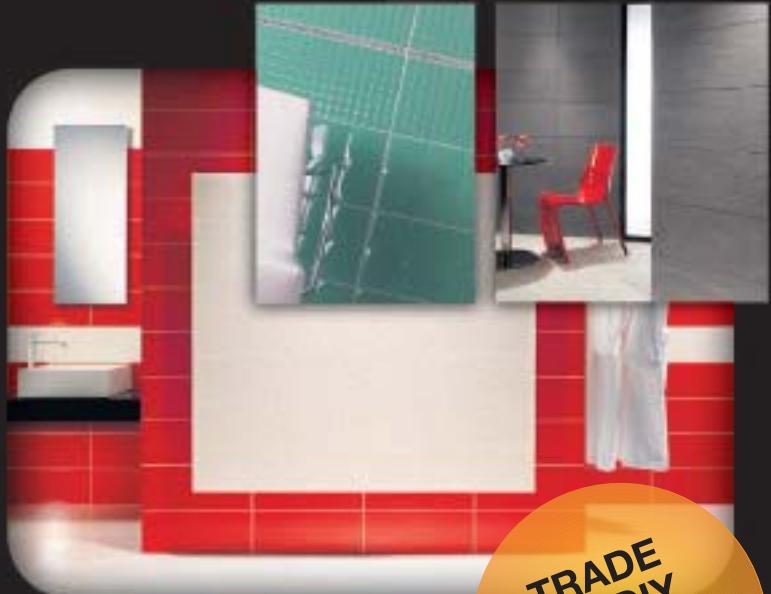
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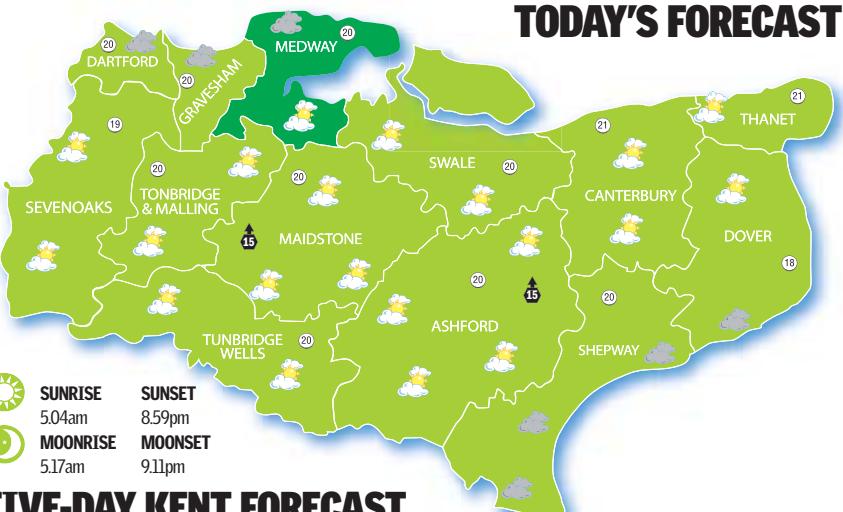
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## FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	22°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	20°C
Canterbury	24°C	21°C	21°C	21°C	21°C
Chatham	22°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	20°C
Dartford	22°C	21°C	20°C	21°C	21°C
Dover	21°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	20°C
Faversham	22°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	20°C
Folkestone	21°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	20°C
Gillingham	22°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	20°C

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Gravesend	22°C	21°C	20°C	21°C	21°C
Maidstone	23°C	21°C	20°C	20°C	21°C
Ramsgate	24°C	21°C	21°C	21°C	21°C
Rochester	22°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	20°C
Sevenoaks	21°C	19°C	18°C	18°C	20°C
Sittingbourne	22°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	20°C
Tonbridge	23°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	21°C
Tun Wells	23°C	20°C	19°C	20°C	21°C

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## WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

<b>Chatham</b>	Saturday	3:58pm	6.4m
	Sunday	4:40pm	6.3m
<b>Dover</b>	Saturday	2:21pm	7.0m
	Sunday	3:02pm	6.8m
<b>Dungeness</b>	Saturday	2:12pm	8.0m
	Sunday	2:54pm	7.8m
<b>Ramsgate</b>	Saturday	2:51pm	5.3m
	Sunday	3:32pm	5.2m
<b>Sheerness</b>	Saturday	3:48pm	6.0m
	Sunday	4:30pm	6.0m
<b>Whitstable</b>	Saturday	3:55pm	5.5m
	Sunday	4:36pm	5.5m



**FAMILY FUN:** Community improvement money has been used to bring sand for us to play in at The Strand

## Life's a beach thanks to sand investment

A TOUCH of the seaside has been brought to The Strand – in the form of several tonnes of sand.

The Bermuda beach-feel was paid for out of two Gillingham North Liberal Democrat councillors' ward improvement funds.

Cllr Andy Stamp said: "We always try to make the limited funding we receive each year stretch as far as possible. People visit The Strand in their thousands over the summer months, so we're really pleased that children and adults alike will be able to enjoy the sand there this year."

Cllr Cathy Sutton added: "The council used to arrange for sand to be dropped off at the Strand every year but this policy ended a long time ago."

"It's great that we're able to provide a bit of fun for families, especially given that many people are struggling through the recession and may be cutting back on day trips to the coast this year."

Medway Council provides each of its 55 councillors with an annual fund of £3,000 to allocate for small projects in their ward which benefit the community.



## AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

<b>Amsterdam</b>	19°C	<b>Madrid</b>	32°C
<b>Athens</b>	36°C	<b>New York</b>	26°C
<b>Barcelona</b>	27°C	<b>Paris</b>	23°C
<b>Beijing</b>	31°C	<b>Rome</b>	26°C
<b>Bombay</b>	27°C	<b>Sydney</b>	20°C
<b>Cape Town</b>	25°C	<b>Tenerife</b>	27°C
<b>Cardiff</b>	17°C	<b>Tokyo</b>	29°C
<b>Gibraltar</b>	23°C	<b>Vancouver</b>	22°C
<b>Hong Kong</b>	29°C	<b>Warsaw</b>	20°C
<b>Las Palmas</b>	27°C	<b>Wellington</b>	-

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# yourlocalinterview

## QUESTION & ANSWER

### CAI ROBBINS



## Q & A

The vice president of Universities at Medway Students' Association spoke to **Simon Robinson** about her role at UMSA, how the association benefits the students of Medway, and about her stellar singing voice

#### Q Tell us a little about yourself.

**A** I'm a third-year drama and theatre studies student, although I have currently taken a year out of my four-year course to fill the role of vice president (Sports) at Kent Union and vice president (Kent) for UMSA – the Universities at Medway Students Association.

#### Q What is UMSA and what does it do?

**A** UMSA is the students' organisation for the Universities of Greenwich, Kent, Canterbury Christ Church and Mid Kent College at the shared Universities at the Medway campus in Chatham Maritime.

The Association provides representation, activities and wide-ranging services to its 9,000 students and is the fastest growing student organisation in the UK.

The Association is a partnership between the students' unions from the Universities of Greenwich, Kent and Canterbury Christ Church.

It has won national recognition for its work, is accredited with Investors in People status and is managed by Kent Union.

#### Q What is your role in UMSA?

**A** Within this I am mainly a student representative and it is my job to ensure the universities are listening, understanding and act-

ing on the needs of the students.

I also represent students at Medway Council meetings, ensuring the good relationship between the community and the students is maintained.

#### Q What are the highlights of UMSA's calendar?

**A** Key events in the UMSA calendar include the Medway Boat Race, which sees teams from all three universities go head-to-head on the water.

To see who's the best on dry land we have Medway Varsity, which sees teams from the Canterbury and Greenwich campuses compete with us in Medway.

Other events include Welcome Week, in which UMSA welcomes all the new students to the campus and the community by providing activities, tours and help moving in.

#### Q How good is the relationship between each university associated with UMSA?

**A** All of the Universities fully support the Association and the Association acts as the body that pulls all the institutions together.

There is a lot of banter between students on the Medway campus, where all students embrace in rivalry between the universities.

But if you ask a student studying at the Medway campus which University they go, many will say 'Medway', showing just how close the students from each institution are.

#### Q What are the advantages of UMSA as opposed to being fully independent?

**A** The Association is run by the students at Medway for the students at Medway; however the campus and the partnership are still young, and are still learning.

Being a partnership organisation between the other universities student unions means the UMSA can draw on the best bits of each partner and apply it to the Medway campus - maximising the benefits to students.

#### Q What do you like to do in your spare time?

**A** When I do get time to myself I'll always make sure I'm not too far away from some sort of sport to watch or take part in.

#### Q What are your career goals?

**A** I'd like to be educating and developing the skills of children through sport abroad or working within the student movement here in the UK.

Whatever it is I end up doing, I simply hope I will be the best I can be.

#### Q Tell us something about you most people do not know.

**A** I've sung in Birmingham symphony hall and have been told I have voice the world should hear – think the bloke might have been a bit deaf, but never mind, it was nice to hear.

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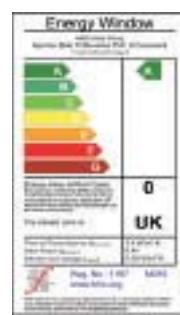
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## EDITOR'S CHOICE

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# We miss you, Marie, but this one's for you

■ BY EMILY HALL

A WOMAN lost her 22-year battle with cancer just two days before she was due to run the Race for Life.

Tragic Marie Twyman died on July 10, aged just 29, yet her friends still managed to don 1980s gear and run the event in her honour.

Marie was initially diagnosed with cancer at the age of seven and had an operation to remove a tumour from her shoulder.

But after going to Portugal to work as a holiday rep in her early 20s she began suffering blinding headaches and had to return home.

She was diagnosed with a brain tumour and breast cancer and for the past five years had been undergoing constant treatment.

Her best friend, Clare Cockell, 27, who is manager of The Reef spa and salon in Gabriels Hill, Maidstone, said: "Marie and I went to college in Canterbury together.

"She was fine up until she became a holiday rep, when she started getting headaches and had to come home. She found out she had a brain tumour in 2004 and had to have three operations.

"She also got breast cancer, which they couldn't treat until they had finished treating the brain tumour. It was hard for her. Her mum had cancer, too, and didn't die that long ago.

"The doctors told her they couldn't get all of it, but she remained positive.

"She had the last operation in March this year, and we had planned to do the Race for Life in Herne Bay, but four weeks ago she couldn't use her left side.

"I saw her two or three weeks ago and when



**WE DID IT:** Reef manager Clare Cockell (centre) was joined by her mum Annette and co-worker Jemma Haywood (left)

she got out of bed she fell over and was slurring. Even then she was still happy, but it became obvious she wasn't going to be able to run the race. Marie had always done the Race for Life with her mum and I have done it with her for the last three years. She loved it and couldn't stop talking about this year's race.

"She was saying she'd do it even if we had to push her round, but she never got the chance."

Single Marie died at the Pilgrims Hospice in her home city of Canterbury. Her friends – including Clare, her mum Annette, 50, and fellow Reef worker Jemma Haywood, 23 – ran the

race and raised more than £1,000 for Cancer Research UK. Clare said: "The donations and support have been truly amazing. When I first set up our fundraising page I set the target at £1,000 and I remember Marie saying, 'You've set a really high target', so I changed it to £500.

"I am so pleased we have now reached that high target for her. She deserves it as she was such an inspiration.

"She always had a smile on her face, no matter what. She will be hugely missed."

Visit [www.raceforlifesponsorme.org/thereef](http://www.raceforlifesponsorme.org/thereef) to add your donation.

## Force backs recruitment of gypsies to end mistrust

GYPSIES and travellers are being recruited by Kent Police to ensure the force represents the community it serves.

Officers believe that by giving jobs to people from the minority group they will be able to smooth what is often a rocky relationship between the two sides.

However, some are concerned tick-box targets could lower standards if vacancies are given to gypsies and travellers rather than the best candidates.

Earlier this year a report by the Association of Police Authorities (APA) suggested forces should seek to recruit from under-represented groups.

Assistant Chief Constable of Kent Police Allyn Thomas said: "We seek to recruit as widely as possible and welcome applicants from all ethnic backgrounds.

### Legitimacy

"We have a gypsy and traveller action group which advises us. Recruiting officers from a variety of ethnic groups enhances the legitimacy of policing in the eyes of those communities."

The initiative has been backed by campaigners for travellers' equality, including the Canterbury Gypsy Support Group.

Vice-chairman Joe Jones said it was important his people were given the same career opportunities, but didn't think there would be a rush to sign up.

He said: "Gypsies and travellers are far from being policed in the real sense. The only time we meet is when our camps are raided or we are being made to move on.

"We are the most misunderstood group of people in the British Isles and nobody really cares about us, but by the police looking to recruit us it shows that we have finally arrived in society."

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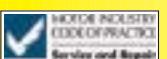
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# Recycling: let's get together

■ BY JENNA PUDELEK

CALLS are growing for a universal kerbside recycling scheme to be provided across the county.

At the moment provision is patchy, with each of the 12 district and borough councils and Medway's unitary authority offering a different service.

Kent County Council has said that current provision "could be better" and is asking residents for their views about a countywide doorstep recycling scheme.

Steve Dawe, spokesman for the Green Party in Kent, said: "It remains a major problem to get councils to collect glass and plastics. They talk about it not being economical, but if it was done on a larger scale it would justify the cost."

"Sharing between councils would not only increase the percentage of recycling to a higher level for households and businesses, there would also be more jobs in these areas. If every local council did the same, then it would generate 50,000 more jobs across the county."

## Dumped

Rubbish that is not recycled is dumped in landfill sites, except in Ashford, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Swale, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells, where it is taken to the Energy From Waste Plant at Allington. There it is burnt to provide power for the National Grid.

We asked each local authority in the county responsible for kerbside recycling collections to provide details about its services. Most collect a good variety of paper and cardboard waste from householders' doorsteps.

However, Ashford council does not take shredded paper, envelopes with windows and coloured shiny leaflets because they can't be turned into newsprint when they are taken to Aylesford Newsprint, near Maidstone.

Ashford residents also do not get their plastics picked up at the kerbside due to expense, although the council does collect glass.

Several councils provide 'co-mingled' schemes where all recyclables are put in



**WORKING TOGETHER:** The Green Party is calling for councils to work together to make recycling more economical in an effort to reduce landfill waste

the same bin or bag. Residents do not have to sort their recycling, but critics of the scheme say more energy is used than in pre-sorted schemes because of the machines used to separate the waste.

There are also concerns that paper collected in the same container as plastic bottles and metal cans is contaminated by food and liquid waste – making it unusable for recycling.

A Sevenoaks council spokesman said in some areas participation in the recycling scheme was as high as 93-100 per cent.

"Some 24 tonnes of recycling sacks from the council were recently audited to determine the breakdown of materials in them," he said.

"The audit found that less than half of one per cent (0.375 per cent) of the contents were materials that could not be recycled."

Dover council provides a 'sorted' scheme with different boxes for different waste.

A spokesman said: "Collecting paper and cardboard separate from plastics, glass and cans enables the collection of clean paper and cardboard that can be sold easily."

Most of the councils have decided recycling more plastics other than bottles was commercially unviable, and most charge for the collection of garden waste.

Tunbridge Wells council launched a kerbside service to collect plastic bottles on July 3.

A spokeswoman said: "Plastic bottles are a good clean material more readily marketed in the UK for recycling. If we collect mixed plastics

## KERBSIDE SCHEMES AROUND KENT

### ASHFORD BOROUGH

- Recycles: Telephone directories, newspapers, magazines, glass containers, cans, empty aerosol cans
- Doesn't recycle: Shredded paper, windowed envelopes, junk mail, cardboard, plastics and containers, tin foil, window glass, compostable waste
- Type: Co-mingled (fortnightly)
- Contractor: SITA

### CANTERBURY CITY

- Recycles: Paper, packaging boxes, ready meals sleeves, occasion cards, flattened cardboard boxes, plastic bottles, cans, empty aerosols, food tins, foil
- Doesn't recycle: Glass, all other types of plastics, compostable waste
- Type: Co-mingled (fortnightly)
- Contractor: Serco

### DARTFORD BOROUGH

- Recycles: Paper, card, cans, plastic bottles, mixed glass (bottles and jars)
- Doesn't recycle: All other types of plastics, compostable waste
- Type: Co-mingled and separate box for glass (fortnightly)
- Contractor: Enterprise MRS Ltd

### DOVER DISTRICT

- Recycles: Paper and cardboard, plastic bottles, tin cans, glass bottles and jars, garden waste
- Doesn't recycle: All other types of plastics, food waste
- Type: Sorted (fortnightly)
- Contractor: SITA

### GRAVESEND BOROUGH

- Recycles: Paper, card, cans and plastic bottles

- Doesn't recycle: All other types of plastics, glass, compostable waste
- Type: Separated (fortnightly)
- Contractor: In-house

### MAIDSTONE BOROUGH

- Recycles: Paper, card, tins, cans, plastics (bottles, margarine tubs, yoghurt pots, ice-cream tubs), garden waste
- Doesn't recycle: All other types of plastics, glass, food waste
- Type: Co-mingled and separate bin for garden waste (fortnightly)
- Contractor: SITA

### MEDWAY:

- Recycles: Paper, card, glass bottles and jars, carrier bags, metal food/drink cans, envelopes, foil, plastic bottles, empty aerosols
- Doesn't recycle: All other types of plastics, cartons, tetrapacks, polystyrene, compostable waste
- Type: Co-mingled (fortnightly)
- Contractor: Veolia

### SEVENOAKS DISTRICT:

- Recycles: Cans, metal jar lids, tins, foil, all aluminium packaging, all paper, all cardboard, all plastic bottles and thin carrier bags. Garden waste and recyclable white goods (fridges etc)
- Doesn't recycle: Other types of plastics, glass, food waste
- Type: Co-mingled (weekly). Garden waste in wheelie bin £41 annually or 12 sacks for £5.50 (fortnightly). White goods approx £11.50 per appliance
- Contractor: In-house

### SHEPWAY DISTRICT:

- Recycles: Paper and card, plastic bottles, glass, tins and cans

- Doesn't recycle: All other types of plastics, compostable waste
- Type: Separated (fortnightly)
- Contractor: Veolia

### SWALE BOROUGH:

- Recycles: All paper, all cardboard, plastic bottles, cans, tins, metal jar lids, foil, microwave meal containers, empty aerosols, glass
- Doesn't recycle: All other types of plastics, broken glass, compostable waste
- Type: Co-mingled (fortnightly)
- Contractor: Verdant

### THANE DISTRICT:

- Recycles: Green waste, plastic bottles, foil and cans (in some areas), paper and card
- Doesn't recycle: Glass, all other types of plastics, food waste, food and drink cartons
- Type: Co-mingled, separate bin for green waste (fortnightly)
- Contractor: In-house

### TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH:

- Recycles: Compostable waste, all cardboard, greeting cards (but not with metal, glitter or plastic), all paper, tins, cans, empty aerosol cans, foil
- Doesn't recycle: Any plastics, glass,
- Type: Co-mingled, green bin for compostable waste (fortnightly)
- Contractor: Veolia

### TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH:

- Recycles: Plastic bottles, cans, all paper and card, compostable waste
- Doesn't recycle: All other plastics, tins, glass
- Type: Separated (fortnightly)
- Contractor: Cory Environmental

tics the markets are not so readily available. There are higher sorting and cleansing costs, often resulting in a product for which there are limited markets."

Residents recycled 47 per cent of their waste last year, she said.

In Tonbridge and Malling residents recycled and composted 46 per cent of waste collected.

Nick Chard, KCC's cabinet member for the environment and waste, said: "We have got to look at how we can improve recycling and get really good value for money."

"A lot of saving could be made on the total cost of waste if we were more joined up between districts and county. It is a good service at the moment, but it could be better."

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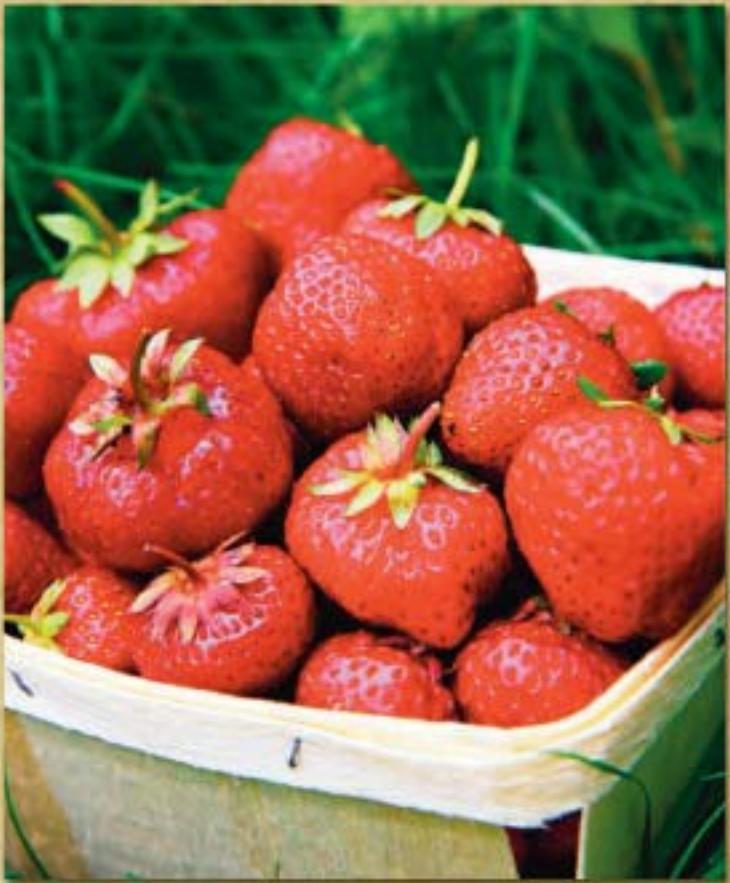
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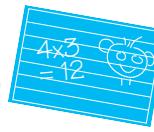
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# yourmedwayschools



■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

RAINHAM School for Girls shows signs of improvement, according to Ofsted inspectors.

The Derwent Way secondary school was rated as level three satisfactory, but notably displayed good capacity to continue to improve.

Ofsted's Joan Greenfield wrote: "The school's overall effectiveness is satisfactory. It is an improving school and several aspects of its work are good.

"Standards are improving and are now closer to the national average than in previous years. The GCSE examination results in 2008 were below average but the school's tracking information shows that students are on course to do better this year, especially for the proportion attaining A\* to C grades and when English and mathematics are included.

"The quality of teaching is satisfactory and not quite as strong as the school considers it to be.

"Senior leaders are focusing well on raising standards and improving students' achievement further. Many initiatives are proving to be successful, although they are not always tied closely enough together to ensure maximum impact."

Mrs Greenfield's report lists a number of areas where the school needs to make improvements. Teachers were advised to give students greater challenges to accelerate their progress.

The school also needs to involve students actively in working with others, check their progress systematically in lessons and ensure that marking consistently helps them to improve their work.

It is also essential that the school sharpens its monitoring systems to judge the impact of initiatives more effectively and accurately in order to inform subsequent action.

Headteacher Jacqui Dunn said: "Areas that need attention have already been identified and action plans are under way.

"Our focus now is on ensuring more stu-



**MEASURING UP:** Ofsted inspectors gave Rainham School for Girls a level three satisfactory rating

dents get higher grades and even better results overall without losing our sense of community and all the opportunities which help our students achieve personal success and fulfilment in life."

Medway Council's children's services boss Les Wicks, said: "This is very clearly a steadily improving school. It already has good areas and a very sound base for adding to its successes."

Medway's director of children and adult services Rose Collinson said: "This is an encouraging report which highlights that Rainham Girls is an improving and inclusive school led by a headteacher and a team committed to ensuring that 'every young person matters' happens in practice.

"I am pleased to see that the standards within the school are continuing to improve and I have great faith that the headteacher and the staff will continue to secure further improvements."

## BREAK TIME

### Youngsters urged to become apprentices

TALENTED teenagers looking for work in Medway and Maidstone are being encouraged to apply for a range of apprenticeship positions at MidKent College.

The college, which already trains nearly 300 externally employed workers through its apprenticeship scheme, has now committed to increasing the number of its internal apprenticeship posts to ten before the end of this month.

Lecturer and apprenticeship adviser Al Camacho said: "The key thing to remember is that apprentices are employees.

"They are not students working within the college, but employees studying with us. By doing all we can to support them in becoming the best employees they can possibly be, we will see them grow into mature, confident workers who have a great deal to offer the college and industry as a whole."

Apprenticeships are work-based learning training programmes for 16 to 24-year-olds. Courses are available across a wide



**TO THE POINT:** Al Camacho shares his thoughts on how best to support college apprentices

range of areas, take around a year to complete and allow candidates to study for an NVQ while working.

The college is looking to take on apprentices in departments including marketing, construction, travel and tourism and IT.

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# Solid base for improvement

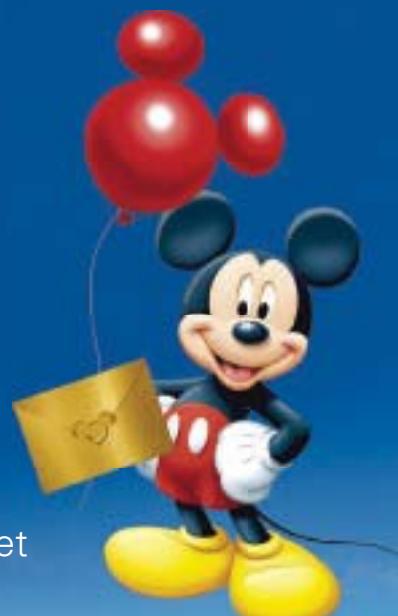


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# yourmedwayblogger

Dad of two Gary Wright asks why do so many parents feel they must buy extra tuition for their children?



## What tutoring is teaching us about our education system

SO 25 per cent of children in our county are receiving extra tutoring away from their regular school.

Think about that for a minute, one in four kids do not get a proper education under our existing system, or so their parents believe.

A huge number of those children of course will be the poor souls who receive external tutoring just so that they can pass the 11-plus.

Then of course when they get to the grammar school that their parents have chosen many of those tutored kids will spend the next five years struggling to keep up. They'll probably need extra tuition while they're there.

I was actually more disturbed to discover children as young as four were receiving tutoring.

Make no mistake there's something not right with the world of education and I think it's the parents who bear a lot of the blame.

The headmaster of The Skinners School in Tunbridge Wells explained that of the 115 boys he takes in each year, he still carries out another test to find out who 'needs additional support'.

So, in one of the county's top grammar schools – apparently some parents are tutoring smart kids so that they get better results so they can get into a better grammar – admits the boys who arrive may not actually be the cream of the crop.

But I bet the parents are still so proud that their offspring is going to the right school, even though he (or she) is going to spend the next five years struggling and probably hating school for that reason. This is wrong for many reasons.

Firstly, tutored, average student X will have taken a place that could have gone to untutored, gifted pupil Y. That irritates me a lot.

Secondly, tutoring is available to those who have the cash and therefore it does reinforce a have-and-have-not society (though I also accept that many parents make financial sacrifice to pay for the tutor too).

Thirdly, there's the issue of the tutors themselves. Most arrangements are private so it means there is no need for tutors to undergo the normal police checks that teachers must have.

But no one is going to stop external tutoring happening, and here's why:

Teachers might not like the thought that some of their class are receiving outside help, but if it improves the results of their children, they're not going to complain are they?

Our county council will not want to change the tutor system either. If they did, parents might expect standards in the classroom to go up – more one-to-one, that kind of thing – which would mean more money and resources.

So, a council that sometimes struggles to give proper support to dyslexic children (I have personal experience of the difficulty in getting a child statemented), might believe it is better to let an army of tutors, paid for direct by parents, lift the educational standards of a county.

And finally, well meaning but misguided parents will always want to spend money on their children's education. For many it saves them having to spent time reading with their kids.

**EDITOR'S NOTE: All blogs are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.**

### GET IN TOUCH...

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**TEXT:** MEDW then your message to: 81800 (please remember to include you name)

### LET US KNOW...

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the acting news editor, **Simon Robinson**, on **01303 817185** or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Medway blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 500 words) and email it to the news editor. And don't forget,

for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk).

Write to The Editor, Yourmedway, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

\* We cannot guarantee all articles will be published and all are at the editor's discretion

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# yourcompetition



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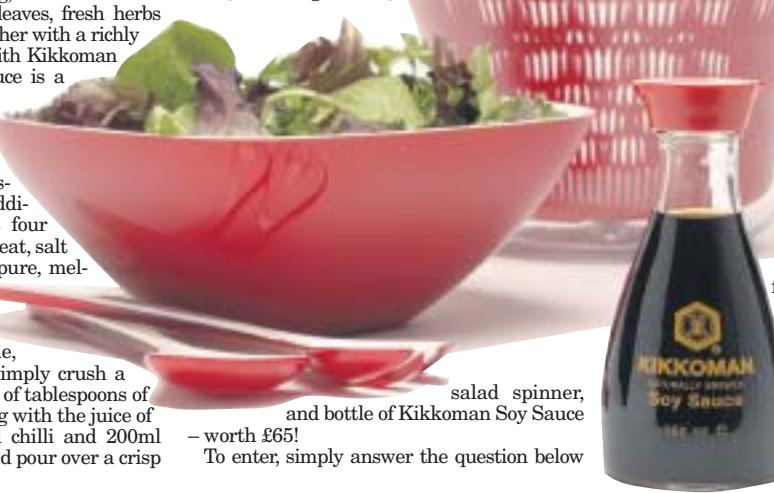
MOST of us would probably agree that summer eating is all about salads.

There's no doubt that on a warm balmy day a cool bowl of fresh greenery is hard to beat – and coated with a zingy dressing, it's irresistible! A handful of your favourite leaves, fresh herbs and vegetables, tossed together with a richly flavoured dressing made with Kikkoman Naturally Brewed Soy Sauce is a great place to start.

Clever cooks know that Kikkoman's famed soy sauce is the secret ingredient for glorious salad dressings. Free from artificial additives and containing just four ingredients – soybeans, wheat, salt and water – Kikkoman's pure, mellow flavour will complement other salad dressing flavours perfectly. To create a tangy Lime, Chilli and Soy Dressing, simply crush a clove of garlic into a couple of tablespoons of Kikkoman Soy Sauce, along with the juice of two limes, half a chopped chilli and 200ml olive oil. Shake together and pour over a crisp

green salad. For more tempting recipe ideas log on [kikkoman.co.uk](http://kikkoman.co.uk).

To get you in the mood for summer eating, Kikkoman is giving away five stylish designer salad sets comprising large bowl, matching servers,



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Try out this mouth-watering salad recipe from [Kikkoman.co.uk](http://Kikkoman.co.uk):

### WARM SOY & CHILLI CHICKEN WITH MANGO AND AVOCADO SALAD

Serves 2

Preparation time 20 minutes

Cooking time 10 minutes

Per serving: 420kcal, 21.7g fat, 4.3g saturated fat

Ingredients:

2 chicken breasts, sliced into 4

2 tbsp Kikkoman Soy Sauce

2 tbsp orange juice

1 green chilli, de-seeded and finely chopped

1 avocado, peeled and cut into chunks

1 red onion, thinly sliced

100g fresh spinach leaves

1 tbsp olive oil

Small handful of torn basil leaves

1 mango, peeled and cut into thin strips

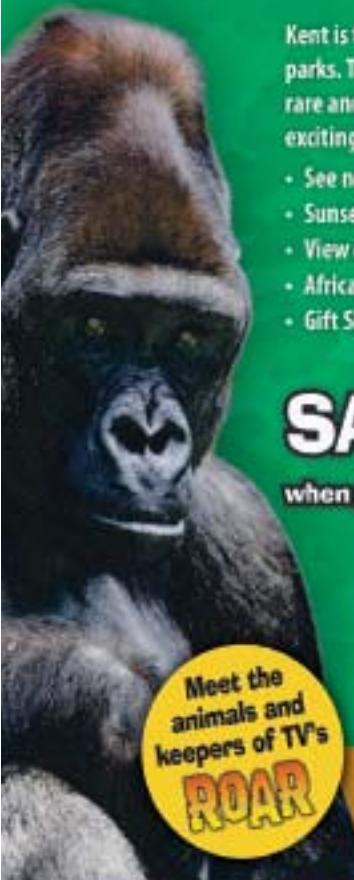
Fresh limes to serve

Method:

1. Pre-heat the grill. Mix the soy sauce, orange juice and chilli in a bowl, toss in the chicken and leave to marinate for 5 minutes.
2. Remove the chicken, reserving the marinade. Cook the chicken under the grill for 8-10 minutes, turning half way through.
3. In a small pan heat the marinade until piping hot and add the oil. Leave to cool slightly.

4. Divide the spinach leaves, avocado, red onion and basil leaves between serving bowls. Top with mango slices and the soy and chilli chicken. Drizzle over the marinade dressing. Serve with limes on the side.

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# yourletters

## TALK TIME

### TIM RICKSON

The Arsenal soccer school office manager talks about Medway's young footballing talent and the joys of the beautiful game

#### Tell us about yourself

My name is Tim Rickson and I am 27. I'm interested in all sports but my passion is playing and watching football. I hail from south London and am a Millwall fan.

#### What events do you run in the Medway area?

We have a popular soccer school in Gillingham and Gravesend; at Anchors sports facility every Tuesday from 6pm-7pm, from September 29, and at Gravesend RFC every Thursday from 6pm-7pm, from October 1.

#### How would you rate the footballers in Medway?

We have seen some very talented players, but I know there are very many that we haven't seen. I would encourage the youth in Medway to join soccer schools and youth teams to enhance their skills. Our Gravesend advanced course discovered some excellent players, but most were fringe players who required further training to progress.

#### The best and worst things about your job?

Best thing is having a passion for this beautiful game called football. Bonuses are working with Arsenal FC and great FA qualified coaches. But the main thing is to know we are delivering beneficial, rewarding, educational courses. Worst things are not having enough hours in the day, and the arduous, time-consuming background work that goes unnoticed but keeps things running smoothly.

#### How can readers get involved in soccer school?

Call 01474 874 937 or visit [www.playtheArsenalWay.com](http://www.playtheArsenalWay.com). Soccer school costs start from £3999



## YOUR LETTERS



### Taxpayers being taken for a ride

Just what is going on with this dictatorial council of ours? It has built a new temporary road in Chatham, costing millions, and no-one wants it or was asked.

It has had the Theatre Royal demolished, at a cost of thousands, and nobody wanted it pulled down.

It is now spending millions knocking down the Sir John Hawkins Way flyover, and nobody wanted it pulled down.

They are going to destroy the Paddock and build a bus depot, which will also cost millions, and nobody wants that either.

When the flyover is down there is going to be a new road built, costing taxpayers millions, and nobody wants it. What I would like to know is, how can the council justify building new roads with taxpayers' money and only private bus companies and taxi firms can use them?

If the motorists who have actually paid for these roads use them, they can be fined. All these millions and I thought there was a credit crunch.

Peter Nassan, Chatham, by letter

## COMMENT ONLINE TOO

NOT only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too.

Beneath most stories on the [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk) website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article. To leave your remarks, click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think.

And remember, [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk) is updated daily, bringing you the latest news from across Medway as well as our villages.

We will include the best on these pages too – ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience.

In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yourmedway before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out. On [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk) you can access, for free, the full newspaper in our highly acclaimed e-editions.

### The new road signs are being ignored

The council has a temporary road layout in use while the Sir

John Hawkins Way flyover is dismantled.

The plan and the road signs say only buses, taxis and cycles can travel from the lower part of Globe Lane and along Medway Street towards Rochester.

However, since the new layout hundreds of private cars use this route every day, despite the signs.

If the council was to enforce the signs I am sure they would obtain a substantial amount in fines which in theory would offset some of the expense of redeveloping Chatham town centre.

What is the point of putting up signs if a large percentage of drivers ignore them (or possibly fail the eyesight requirements for driving)?

Ian Balderston, by email



### Such bitter bigotry belongs in the BNP

Medway blogger last week: I don't believe you. Are you black or are you Indian?

No, I think you're just a small-minded bigot who oozes bitterness. The BNP is just the right party for you.

I recommend you join and become a regular attendee at meetings. You'll find plenty of extremists there who share your views.

You never know, if you scare enough people you might become a councillor.

Oh, sorry, then you'd have to do something for someone else rather than worrying all the time

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about your own petty life. Europe and the rest of the world is out there, by the way. It doesn't bite.

Simon Haydon, comment posted on [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk)

## Amazed at reaction to Medway blogger

Since when did councillors have to do something for someone else?

I'm absolutely amazed at Mr Haydon's comments.

I would say they were almost racist and perhaps he, in his "small-minded little world", should get real.

Paul, comment posted on [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk)



### Geoff and Bev are like trusted friends

With regards to Beverley Thompson and Geoff Clark (pictured above) being axed from BBC South East Today, I can't believe it. Why?

They are really good at their job and work so well together. It will be like losing friends.

Janet Ollis, Rochester, by letter

## Nothing racist about loving your country

Hear, hear! But I think you suspected, and I thought too, that someone would jump and scream racist at you and indeed someone is recommending that you join the BNP for your views.

Unfortunately, racist is the tag given to a lot of people who are just fed up of the one-sidedness of the situation here in the UK.

I applaud your views, and before someone screams racist at me – which they will – just so you know, I share my home with a British-born Pakistani who also agrees with you.

Enya Whittle, comment posted on [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk)

### Migrants bring skills the UK sorely lacks

Recent figures suggest racist attacks and abuse in schools in Medway have not been rising as quickly as those in Kent.

This is heartening. It was also very encouraging that Chatham played host to the very successful Love Music, Hate Racism festival in May this year, at which Hazel Dawe, chairwoman of Kent and Medway Green Party, spoke.

But the results of the European

elections, while very good for the Green Party, were in part depressing because of votes given to political parties which are obsessed with cutting or stopping immigration.

Where does opposition to immigration stop short of racism? Does it ever? In fact, all over Europe votes were cast for such parties of the right in alarming numbers. Since 5.5 million UK citizens live abroad, any halt to immigration could easily lead to retaliatory action against them.

Since we are seriously short of many skills in this country, stopping immigration would be damaging to our society and economy.

Whether some people like it or not, being part of the European Union allows us to draw upon people with skills which we simply do not have in this country in sufficient numbers.

Without doctors and nurses from overseas, the NHS would be in a dire condition. We certainly can address the reasons why people want to migrate to the UK.

But one of the main reasons is quite clearly systematic lack of investment in education to address skills shortages.

I am thankful that we have had immigrants to fill the gaps left by successive Governments, and to add to the cultural diversity of the UK.

But I do believe it is the duty of all European governments, including our own, to address their own skills shortages, rather than expecting other countries to provide.

Steve Dawe, Kent Green Party, by email

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**yourleisure**

# Nigel jazzes up Margate

Classical violinist Nigel Kennedy will be paying tribute to legend Miles Davis at the Big Sky Jazz Festival

ONE of Britain's biggest classical stars will be visiting Margate as part of the Big Sky Jazz Festival.

Nigel Kennedy, the best-selling classical violinist of all time, will pay tribute to jazz legend Miles Davis at the Winter Gardens on Friday. It will be one of the highlights of the three-day festival, with exciting events taking place at venues in and around the town.

A leading violin virtuoso, Kennedy has won fans all over the world, bringing new audiences to the classical genre with his unique talent and fresh approach to both classical and contemporary music. As a child

Kennedy became the most famous protégé of Yehudi Menuhin, who paid the promising youngster's fees while he studied at the Menuhin School. Kennedy moved on to study under celebrated teacher Dorothy DeLay at the Juilliard School of Music in New York, before exploding on to the music scene in the late 70s.

His impressive debuts include his 1977 performance at London's Royal Festival Hall, the Berlin Philharmonic in 1980 and his New York orchestral debut in 1987. During his long career Kennedy has performed for numerous members of the Royal family and received many accolades, such as Outstanding Contribution to British Music and Male Artist of the Year gongs at the Brit Awards.

From his first award-winning recording in 1985, Kennedy has created an extensive discography. His recording of Vivaldi's Four Seasons entered the Guinness Book of Records as the bestselling classical work of all time, with more than two million copies sold. In 2002 he was appointed artistic director of the Polish Chamber Orchestra, an office once held by his mentor, the late Lord Menuhin.

His passion for jazz is well-known, having produced the album Blue Note Sessions which featured a band of jazz giants such as Ron Carter and Jack DeJohnette. Currently he is working on a new album of original works with his quintet.

The Big Sky Jazz Festival is organised by Margate Town Partnership, with the support of Thanet District Council. It is now in its fifth year and the 2009 event has attracted some of Britain's most exciting jazz talents. Other key concerts in the festival line-up including performances by British jazz guitarist Mark Hewins and his trio, the original District Six South African band, Henry Lowther's Still Waters, Sarah Moule and Simon Wallace, Annie Whitehead's Big Sky Big Band, Lackadaisical Big Band, Christine Tobin Band and John Etheridge.

These great names will be performing live and free on the piazza throughout the weekend.

Tickets for Nigel Kennedy's concert cost £22.50/£11. To book call 01843 292795/296111 or visit [www.margatetwergardens.co.uk](http://www.margatetwergardens.co.uk).

For more information about the festival call 01843 297350 or visit [www.visitthanet.co.uk](http://www.visitthanet.co.uk).

#### NIGEL KENNEDY

Friday, July 24 to  
Sunday, July 26  
Various venues, Margate



with  
**JANE CONNOLLY**  
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## THE BOOTLEG BEATLES

Friday, July 24  
Orchard Theatre, Dartford



FOR 30 years The Bootleg Beatles have been paying homage to the worldwide phenomenon that was the Fab Four.

The three founding members met back in 1979, when they were all performing in the West End production, Beatlemania. During the run, they learned the repertoire so well that they decided to continue performing after the show came to an end. Neil Harrison (Bootleg John Lennon), Andre Barreau (Bootleg George) and David Catlin-Birch

(Bootleg Paul) formed The Bootleg Beatles and their live show has evolved over the years to become a spectacular experience.

Three decades ago, the band started out as four musicians wearing black polo neck jumpers and wigs. These days, audiences can look forward to a multi-media stage show featuring a visually stunning video backdrop, which brings together the six phases of the Beatles' rise to fame. An eight-piece orchestra also allows the band to perform later songs that the Beatles never performed live themselves.

The show starts at 8pm and tickets cost £22.50. Book at [www.orchardtheatre.co.uk](http://www.orchardtheatre.co.uk) or call the box office on 01322 220000.

## THE MERCHANT OF VENICE

Wednesday, July 22 and Thursday, July 23  
Rochester Castle Gardens



ENJOY a credit crunch of Shakespearean proportions when The Merchant of Venice revisits Medway.

The Bard's tale of racism, financial collapse and hidden agendas receives an update in this new production by the Hazlitt Arts Centre and The Changeling theatre company.

Set in a City not unlike our own, the play highlights Shakespeare's talent for capturing age-old problems by giving his story a modern twist.

Former Hollyoaks actor



Oliver Farnworth stars as Lorenzo, who loves the daughter of Jewish money-lender, Shylock. While one character accepts a loan from Shylock at a high risk, another tries to win the hand of an heiress by taking part in a game that draws comparisons with game show Deal or No Deal.

The performance starts at 7.30pm. To book tickets call 01622 758611 or visit [www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk](http://www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk).



## RIVER FESTIVAL

Friday, July 24 and Saturday, July 25  
Maidstone, Riverside



ONE of Maidstone's biggest events celebrates its 30th anniversary this year with a packed programme of entertainment.

Thousands of people are expected to flock to the county town this week for the annual River Festival. As the free event marks three decades of fun, festival-goers can expect an even better extravaganza than ever. Organisers hope to make a big splash on the River Medway with a packed line-up of family entertainment on both days.

One of the highlights of the festival will be the spectacular raft race which starts at 2.30pm on Saturday. Entry forms can be downloaded online at [www.maidstoneriverfestival.com](http://www.maidstoneriverfestival.com).

Two live music stages and two dance stages will provide a wealth of entertainment, along with the street entertainers and the Amphitheatre stage. Roll up to enjoy all the fun of the Forrest Family Funfair, bag a tasty bargain at the French market and witness the illuminated boat parade.

The festival will go out with a bang as the spectacular firework finale to marks its 30th birthday in style. More details can be found at [www.maidstoneriverfestival.com](http://www.maidstoneriverfestival.com).

## MEDWAY LEISURE

### Get wet and wild when you go ditch-dipping

FIND out what lurks beneath the surface of ponds by taking part in a ditch-dipping session at RSPB Northward Hill.

The event runs from 10am to 1pm and all equipment will be provided.

The event costs £4 for non-members and £2 for members and children. To book or find out more call 01634 222480 or visit [www.rspb.org.uk/northward-hillevents](http://www.rspb.org.uk/northward-hillevents).

### Families should race to Buckmore Park circuit

GET on track for an exhilarating day out as Buckmore Park kart circuit hosts a DJMotorsport Family Fun Race on Sunday.

Teams of two are invited to take part and drivers will use the 70mph RX7 Pro spec karts. Entry costs £103 per kart. To book call 0845 603 7964. For more information about Buckmore Park at Chatham visit [www.buckmore.co.uk](http://www.buckmore.co.uk).

### Swing along to theatre and help our heroes

HELP raise money for our military heroes while enjoying a great night out at the Brook Theatre in Chatham.

Rising swing star Shane Hampsheir and a line-up of comedians will be performing in aid of Help for Heroes. The concert starts at 7.30pm on Friday and tickets cost £12/£10.

To book call 01634 338338 or visit [www.medway.gov.uk/theatrebooking](http://www.medway.gov.uk/theatrebooking).

### Choo know where to go for great live music

FOR an evening of live funk, soul, blues and jazz music, head to the Lower Bell in Aylesford this weekend.

The pub will be hosting a gig by The Choops. Find out more about the band online at <http://thechoops.co.uk>.

They will be appearing at the pub in Chatham Road at 8.30pm on Saturday. For more information call 01634 861127 or visit [www.lowerbell.com](http://www.lowerbell.com).

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Make it an extra special visit, dine in our restaurant and stay the night in one of our comfortable rooms with a 50% discount on the room and breakfast in the morning. Please book quoting this offer.

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We are just off the A20 between Lenham & Charing.  
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Open 6 days a week Call 01622 859846  
[www.harrowhillhotel.com](http://www.harrowhillhotel.com)



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# Enjoy a hearty meal after bracing walk

## See Ho

THE See Ho is a friendly busy country pub which serves great beers and a vast range of home prepared dishes.

Early bird specials, dinners, Sunday roasts and fresh fish are all items which have attracted customers to the menu which is varied and uses as much local produce as possible.

There is live music on a Thursday night and a quiz on a Sunday evening.

Small or large groups are all catered for and the pub is particularly popular with hikers who enjoy the excellent landscape.

They regularly book tables for up to 20 and 30 walkers.

The See Ho has been an institution in the Medway area for many years and is open from 11 am until 3pm and 6pm until 11pm each day.

Current top sellers on the menu are a home made rabbit pie, rib eye steak, homemade steak in ale pie, fillet steak and lamb shank.

£3 lunch special is also available and all the dishes are homemade. On the menu is meatloaf mash with fresh vegetables, fishcakes, chips and peas and various pasties with chips and peas or beans.

All of the dishes are complemented by excellent beers and wines which the knowledgeable staff ensure are kept perfectly.

Music from bands and singers will take place on July 23, 24 and 30th

Fresh food at very reasonable prices is the key to the success of the venue which attracts custom from far and wide because of its excellent reputation and fine location.

See Ho, Pear Tree Lane, Shorne, Kent, DA12 3JX.  
Telephone: 01474 822386



## KINGS HEAD

Come and enjoy our superb quality  
**Sunday Carvery only £8.95**

### Early Bird offer

Family of 4, 2 courses + soft drinks for the kids  
Mon - Sat 5pm 7pm £30 inclusive  
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North Street, Sutton Valence

# out guide

and benefit from downloadable offer vouchers and display your menu online!

## Taste of Italy in countryside

### ■ La Zagarella

THE Harrow and La Zagarella is a friendly hotel bar and restaurant and is well regarded for its excellent Italian and Sicilian style food.

Sincere hospitality in the traditional warm Mediterranean style is offered to all visitors whether they are locals or have travelled many miles to taste the excellent food and drink on offer and sample the ambience.

A genuine find for lovers of quality cuisine the restaurant is situated in one of the most attractive parts of the Garden of England – bringing the tastes and atmosphere of southern Europe to the heart of our countryside.

The business has been running for one year and in that time has built up a large and ever growing number of loyal regular customers while others who discover the place as a one-off know they have uncovered a rare treat.

The eaterie offers real Italian stone-baked pizza either to eat in or take away.

Outside, the patio is the perfect place to dine al fresco or just enjoy a drink. It is truly a



great place to get away from the hustle and bustle of modern life

The best Italian food in the area gives a true taste and feel of a more refined way of life. Lunch is on offer from 12-3pm and evening meals are catered for from 7-10.30pm.

**The Harrow and La Zagarella Restaurant, Hubbards Hill, Warren Street, near Lenham, ME17 2ED.**

Telephone: 01622 859846, [www.harrowhillhotel.com](http://www.harrowhillhotel.com).

## Thailand on your doorstep

### ■ Rakang Thai Restaurant

THE Rakang is a traditional Thai restaurant with decor that is designed to make customers feel as though you have stepped straight into Thailand.

Owner Narong Pilong has worked in Thai restaurants for over 10 years in Surrey and Bath, and when the opportunity arose to own his own restaurant he jumped at the chance.

"I love this location," he said. "Now we have a very successful Thai restaurant which gives people the chance to experience the authentic flavours of one of the world's great cuisines."

The most selected dishes on their menu include: **Starter:** mixed chicken satay, spring rolls, Thai spare ribs, prawn toast £10.95.

**Main:** weeping tiger (sizzling) prime of sirloin steak grilled and served with special hot and sour sauce £9.95.

**Main:** Pla Pao which is a whole seabass marinated in aromatic Thai herbs grilled and served with two styles of seafood dressings £13.95.

**Desserts:** Dragon Ball is a very popular dish, vanilla ice cream deep fried £4.75.



The restaurant opened its doors in September last year and since then has established itself in the Medway Towns and beyond as a place where quality food can be obtained at very reasonable prices.

**Rakang Thai Restaurant, 129 Watling Street, Gillingham ME7 2YY. Telephone: 01634 850077.**

Wendy, Nigel & Staff welcome you to

### The See Ho at Shorne



- A friendly, traditional pub with an extensive menu of home cooked food
  - Traditional home cooked pies including rabbit and steak & stilton
  - Sunday Lunches £6.95 followed by our popular meat raffle
  - Outdoor area with seating
  - Regular live music on Thursdays
  - Quiz night every Sunday
- Great value LUNCHES Mon-Sat from £3**

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### Eating Out Guide

Telephone

**01303 817150**



**yourmedway**



To advertise in the next eating out guide, please phone **01303 817150**

### CHEF RECOMMENDS

#### Bloomers

**Starter:** Scottish wild smoked salmon with succulent prawns.

**Main:** House Specialty – Baked lamb with a walnut and mushroom stuffing served with a light mint jus

**Dessert:** Fresh strawberries with liquor and ice cream

**Drinks:** Chilled Lanson Champagne Telephone Number: 01474 322131

Website: [www.overcliffehotel.co.uk](http://www.overcliffehotel.co.uk)

#### Spice Court

**Starter:** Capsi kebab, grilled whole green pepper filled with lamb

**Main Course:** Marisa chicken or lamb, in a medium sauce fairly hot with a flash of chilli and chef's special herbs

**Dessert:** Royal pot toffee flavoured ice cream with toffee pieces all displayed in an attractive pot

Telephone Number: 01634 850150

#### Ace of Spice

**Starter:** King prawn butterfly coated in a mildly spiced batter and deep fried.

**Main Course:** Chicken Dhansak – meat or prawns combined with a lentil dahl.

**Dessert:** Flute hazen: ice cream with coconut and hazelnut

Telephone Number: 01634 578400

#### King's Head

**Starter:** Farmhouse pate and toast

**Main Course:** Daily carvery coming soon! For a light lunch we have a great selection of wraps with various fillings served with potato wedges.

**Dessert:** Deep-filled apple pie with custard (or cream!)

Telephone Number: 01622 843264

#### Yoons

Eat as much as you Like Buffet only £14.50 per head. Starters include spare ribs, Smoked shredded chicken,

Chicken satay and salt and chilli squid. Main Course includes: Mongolian lamb with lettuce wrap, lemon chicken, beef with bamboo shoots in oyster sauce, The above is just a small selection of our buffet menu.

Telephone Number: 01634 406608

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Book now to avoid disappointment

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**Spice Thursday**  
Choice of Starter, Main Dish, Side Dish and Rice or Nan  
Coffee or Vanilla Ice Cream  
**Only £10.00**  
Add £2.95 for King Prawn dishes

**Sunday Buffet**  
All day Sunday Buffet 12 noon – 11pm  
**Eat as much as you like!**  
**Adults £8.50**  
**Children £4.50**

Choose from a wide variety of dishes

**Spice Court**  
Indian Restaurant  
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(Opposite Gillingham Station)  
**01634 850150** [www.spicecourt.net](http://www.spicecourt.net)

### Ace of Spice Indian Restaurant

**Banquet Night** every Tuesday

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any starter, any main course,  
any side dish

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**FREE Home Delivery 10% OFF**  
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\* King prawns and fish dishes £2.90 Extra

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ADULT CONTEMPORARY DANCE CLASS

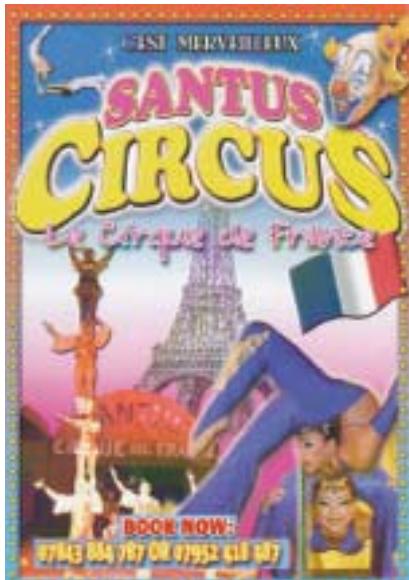


Wed:  
16 September  
-  
25 November  
(no class 28 October)  
5.30-6.45PM  
£4.00 per class  
  
At the  
Brook Theatre,  
Chatham,  
Kent ME4 4SE

This contemporary class is a fun, creative class that has a Pilates and fitness focus, it is perfect for complete beginners or for those who are returning to dance after a break.

For further information please contact  
Ed Beth Frost on 01634 831531 or  
info@loopdancecompany.co.uk

To advertise in this section  
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**22<sup>ND</sup> JULY TO**  
**SUNDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

Wed 22nd • 5pm & 7.30pm  
Thurs 23rd • 5pm & 7.30pm  
Fri 24th • 5pm & 7.30pm  
Sat 25th • 3pm & 6pm  
Sun 26th • 3pm only

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# Jungle fever

Release your inner animal



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Maxi dress,  
price £200

**FREEDOM AT  
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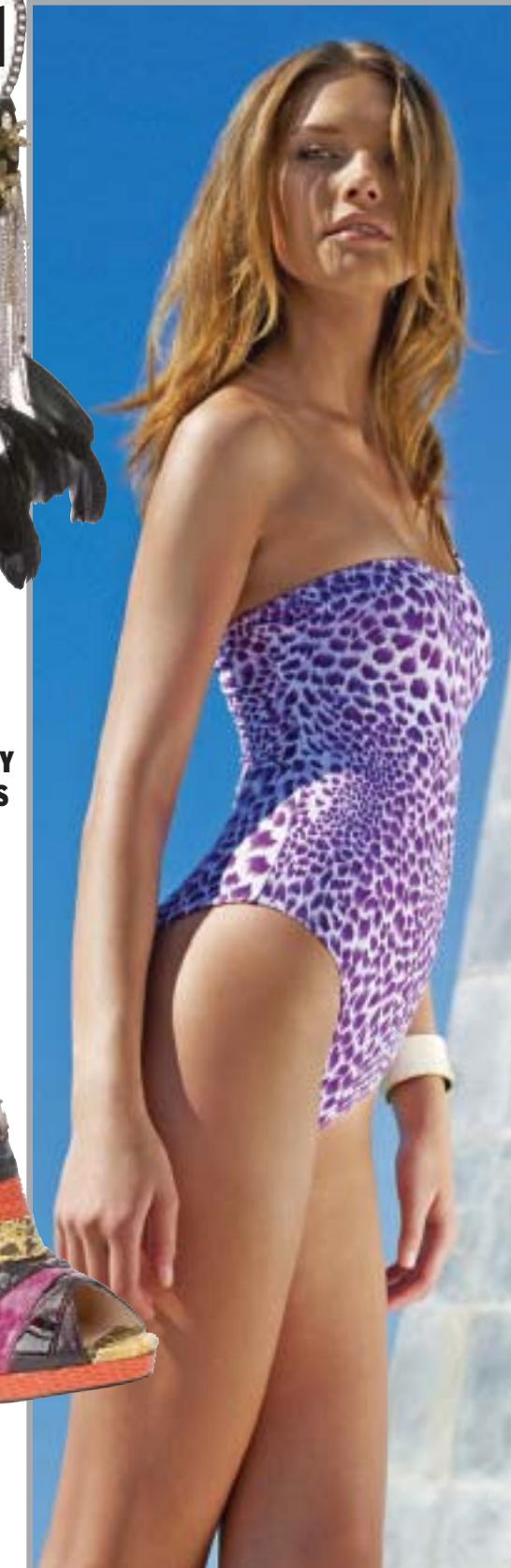
Necklace, price £40

**DOROTHY  
PERKINS**

Leopard print  
swimsuit,  
price £18

**ALDO**

Lacau sandals,  
price £70



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**ACCESSORIZE**  
Feather drop earrings, price £10

**JANE NORMAN**  
Cowl-neck top, price £25

**JANE NORMAN**  
Cami top, price £22

**DOROTHY PERKINS**  
Woodland Trust T-shirt, price £18

**ALDO**  
Telles sandals, price £75

**MEDWAY SHOPPING****Asda offers no-quibble schoolwear guarantee**

SCHOOL uniforms can be a drain on household funds, but Asda is offering a 100-day guarantee on its schoolwear.

Prices start from £1.75 for sweaters, £5 for boys' grey trousers and £2 for boys' short-sleeved shirts. Asda is offering an exchange or refund on its products if customers are not happy with the quality.

For terms and conditions visit the website at [www.asda.com](http://www.asda.com).

**Give your kitchen a look to top all others**

GIVE your kitchen a makeover with the help of Granite Transformations.

Available exclusively from the showroom in Longfield Road, Tunbridge Wells, the advanced, diamond-polished worktop surface bonds directly to existing worktops. This gives tired kitchens an immediate lift without all the hassle of a complete refit.

For information, visit the showroom at Tunbridge Wells Trade Park, call 01892 517385 or go online at [www.granitetraformations.co.uk/tunwells](http://www.granitetraformations.co.uk/tunwells).

**Take care of your pets both home and away**

Pets at Home is urging people to think carefully when travelling with animals.

Their top tips include providing fresh water; restraining dogs with a harness or barrier; carrying animals in a wire-mesh box rather than a cardboard one and never leaving pets alone in a car.

The store's range of travel products includes Serene-UM car sickness tablets (£6.06 for 30) for dogs and cats. Visit your local store or go online at [www.petsathome.com](http://www.petsathome.com) for details.

**Jeanette tells a case full of stories for kids**

CHILDREN'S author Jeanette Towey will be talking about her work at Waterstone's in Tunbridge Wells this weekend.

She will be chatting to customers about her story, which appears in the anthology A Suitcase Full of Stories, and signing copies upstairs in the children's section from 11am on Saturday.

For more information, call 01892 535446. Find out more about all Waterstone's events online at [www.waterstones.com](http://www.waterstones.com).

**Fill your Boots in the up-to-half-price offer**

SHOP online to take advantage of the up-to-half-price summer sale at Boots.

Bargains include the BaByliss Elegance 2000 hairdryer, reduced from £24.46 to £16.31. The Scene It? Movie 2 game is now half price at £14.68 and the Ultrasonex Phaser Toothbrush 10383 has been slashed from £58.72 to £39.14.

The savings are only available online and while stocks last. See the full range on the website at [www.boots.com](http://www.boots.com).

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## YOUR TV REVIEW

■ BY TOM BETTS

### AIRLINE

ITV1, 8pm, Friday

### TORCHWOOD: CHILDREN OF EARTH

BBC One

I HATE flying, but I love Airline, the fly-on-the-wall show which follows the turbulent work lives of those who earn a living serving easyJet.

"It's not easy being green" sang Kermit the Frog many moons ago, but these workers could easily change that to it's not easy being (decked in orange) as the staff of the budget airline endure the vociferous bile that is usually reserved for paedophiles and killers.

There's a lot of shouting in this show – and I do mean a lot.

Much of the action centres around the check-in desk as people turn up late, without passports or often drunk as skunks and then expect to be let onto their flight regardless.

Airline is back for a 20-week run on ITV1 which means they'll be a lot of stamping of feet and rows in broken English.

Brilliant!

Arguments may be horrible things to be involved in first-hand, but they make cracking television.

There are lots of less interesting bits about the day-to-day operations, but really this is all about those "Get me on that plane, you mug" moments, and god bless it for that.

You have to hand it to the staff, many of them seem to have developed skin thicker than the Hoover Dam and rarely bat an eyelid when someone is up in their face hurling a stream of abuse their way.

I doubt many of us would be able to operate under such stress.

I've panned Torchwood in the past – and with good reason.

More often than not it's been awful



**ALIEN INTERVENTION:** Torchwood's recent storyline has proved the show is getting better

nonsense that seems to exist only as the reinvention of Doctor Who which has been such a huge success.

However, I must admit that five-parter Children of Earth was actually rather good and had me hooked.

The acting was nothing to get too excited about, but the storyline, about a brutal alien race demanding ten per cent of the planet's kids to use as some kind of recreational drug, was a good and original idea which worked rather well.

Stretching it out to every weekday night may have been pushing it a bit far, especially at a whole hour per episode, but credit where it's due.

It bodes well for the next series, if they decide to make one.

If they don't, then it would be a shame finishing just as the light at the end of the tunnel had finally loomed into view.

## YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT

### AQUARIUS

(Jan 21-Feb 19)

THERE'S never been a better time to start getting in shape. If you've had difficulty staying on track before, that won't happen now. It will be much easier to lose weight, tone up and not put it all back on. Financial difficulties could put a damper on your love life.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762

### PISCES

(Feb 20-Mar 20)

A ROMANCE, project, or family decision could turn your life around. It's time to make room for joy and that might mean cutting back, even at the risk of losing money. You don't need to be wealthy to have fun. A friend may try to fill your head with fears regarding career prospects.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763

### ARIES

(Mar 21-Apr 19)

IT'S a good time for buying or selling property. This will happen quite suddenly and the result will be great. You may want to move to a private spot. Although you're very social, you need a secluded area to recharge your batteries. Work can be something of a challenge now.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752

### CANCER

(Jun 23-Jul 23)

YOU could discover some hidden talents this week. Finding surprising ways to apply your expertise gives you a new level of confidence. Don't be surprised if you're asked to teach, write or lecture. People look to you as an authority, even if you don't have formal training.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755

### LIBRA

(Sep 24-Oct 23)

PUBLIC recognition is coming your way, so get ready for the spotlight to be trained on you. It's great to know people enjoy your creative vision. If you've ever wanted a career in fashion, film, or television take the plunge now. Offer to work for free, if you have to.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758

### CAPRICORN

(Dec 22-Jan 20)

OLD relationships evolve into newer, stronger friendships. Someone could get engaged or married quite suddenly. It's even possible you'll form a business partnership. No matter what the nature of this bond, it will have some unusual aspects. You could be complete opposites.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

Calls cost 75p per minute. Service provided by g8wave London N7

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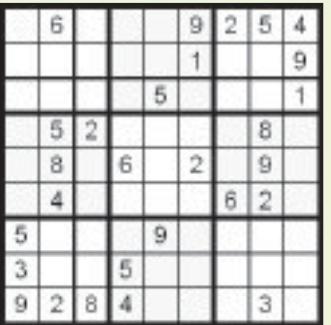
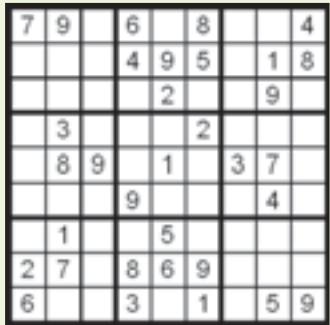
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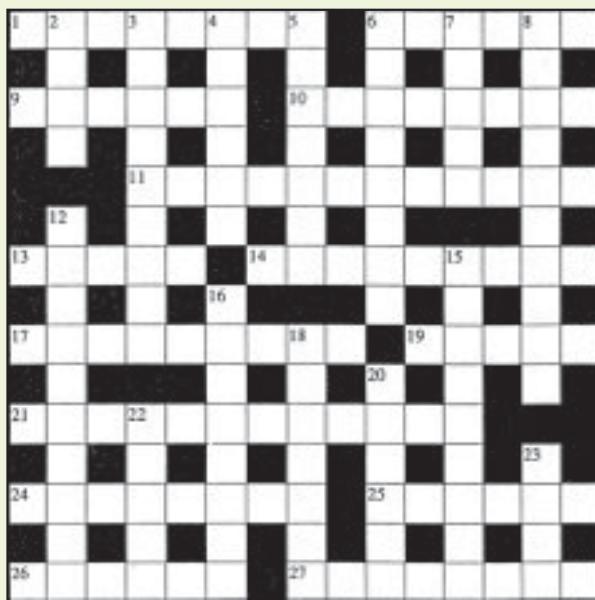
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**CROSSWORD & SUDOKU****No97**SPONSORED BY  
WATERSTONE'S

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9

**EASY****MEDIUM****HARD****CRYPTIC CLUES****ACROSS**

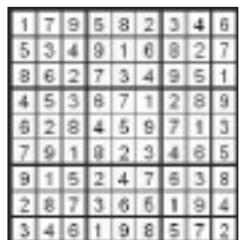
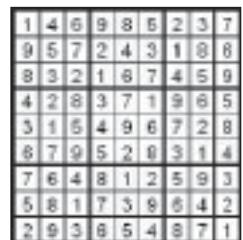
- 1 Notes by river perhaps the movement of money (4,4)
- 6 Illusion of silver in swamp (6)
- 9 Attack name included for pancake (6)
- 10 Number on phone about Greek general (8)
- 11 Direct speech? (8,4)
- 13 By which chauvinist might express annoyance (5)
- 14 Throw bullet from catapult (9)
- 17 Removed fault fast as it is windy (9)
- 19 Inexperienced environmentalist (5)
- 21 Rail-car? (7-5)
- 24 Woman who flirts on river in Northumberland, say (8)
- 25 Natural rind be removed (6)
- 26 Reach former nurse (6)
- 27 Saying vegetable in outer covering is good initially (8)
- DOWN
- 2 With skill profitably somewhat (4)
- 3 Were eyes in the back of the head used with this? (9)
- 4 Reptile found in sitting-room? (6)
- 5 Bird to grow beak! (7)
- 6 I leave German city with gin-sling chewing (8)
- 7 Drunkard came up to pocket billiard ball again (5)
- 8 Pretty girl perhaps is well-behaved observer (4-6)
- 12 Letter from William exchanging tuxedo (6-4)
- 15 Beast had three months with book, nothing less (9)
- 16 Distributed, dealt lot out (8)
- 18 Novelty of unworn cape (7)
- 20 I get in fancy light (6)
- 22 Note police going inside during suspension of hostilities (5)
- 23 Some who move inside have distinctive manner (4)

**SCRIBBLE HERE****QUICK CLUES****ACROSS**

- 1 Control column (8)
- 6 Assent (6)
- 9 Secluded footway (6)
- 10 Large horned bird (5-3)
- 11 Vulnerability (12)
- 13 Pool (5)
- 14 Flu (9)
- 17 Misleading (9)
- 19 Pong (5)
- 21 Stallholder (6,6)
- 24 Disunion (8)
- 25 Carole (anag.) (6)
- 26 Chinese fruit (6)
- 27 Rebel (8)

**DOWN**

- 2 African antelope (4)
- 3 Pasta (9)
- 4 Breathe in (6)
- 5 Moscow citadel (7)
- 6 In an imposing way (8)
- 7 Remove dirt (5)
- 8 Reducing workforce (10)
- 12 Render unfit (10)
- 15 Amuse (9)
- 16 Terrapin (8)
- 18 Word from initials (7)
- 20 Skilful (6)
- 22 Town NW of Aberdeen (5)
- 23 Hint (4)

**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS****SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No96****EASY****MEDIUM****HARD**

Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

**CRYPTIC SOLUTION No96**

**ACROSS:** 1 By the by 5 Ghosted 9 OMOV 10 Bumfreezer 12 Jurassic 13 Creepy 14 Action replay 17 Quelque chose 21 Pampas 23 Pick-me-up 24 Historical 25 Tidy 26 Unknown 27 Cricket. **DOWN:** 2 Yum-yum 3 Have a ball 4 Baby-sit 6 Hire car 7 Siege 8 Exemplar 11 Microscopic 15 Pneumatic 16 Duration 18 Unscrew 19 Oscular 20 Dundee 22 Paten.

**QUICK SOLUTION No97**

**ACROSS:** 1 Joystick 6 Helplessnesses 13 Party 14 To Eagerly 17 Helplessnesses 18 Access 9 Bypass 19 Interferes 21 Dismay 25 Ode to 26 Shylocke 27 Dismay 28 Dismay 29 Shylocke 21 Market 4 Thrive 5 Kramkin 6 Dismay 7 Clean 8 Dismay 12 Dismay 13 Dismay 15 Etherium 16 Dismay 17 Dismay 18 Dismay 20 Adroit 22 Reeth 23 Pick-me-up 24 Historical 25 Tidy 26 Unknown 27 Cricket. **DOWN:** 2 Yum-yum 3 Baby-sit 4 Baby-sit 6 Hire car 7 Siege 8 Exemplar 11 Microscopic 15 Pneumatic 16 Duration 18 Unscrew 19 Oscular 20 Dundee 22 Paten.

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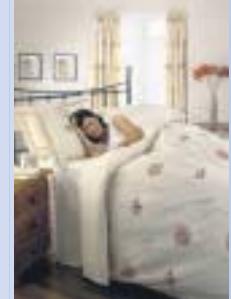
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**ON GENERAL RELEASE**

MOON (15)



David Bowie's son Duncan Jones makes an auspicious directorial debut. Actor Sam Rockwell is the man stationed on the moon who falls ill, meets his clone and finds himself trapped by a computer

BRUNO (18)



Sacha Baron Cohen adopts the role of gay, crass, insolent fashionista Bruno from Austria, who tours the US looking to set up unsuspecting locals with his outrageous brand of 'interviewing'.

THE PRIVATE LIVES OF PIPPA LEE (15)



Robin Wright Penn stars as Pippa Lee, a woman heading for a mental breakdown after moving to a retirement village with her older husband, who has an affair with her friend's son.

# Magical superstar – or just a normal teenager?

■ BY KATE WHITING

AN EARNEST young actor bursts into the room, grabs my hand in a shake and says: "Hi, I'm Daniel".

But he doesn't need to make an introduction. Daniel Radcliffe has one of the most recognised faces in the world thanks to a certain boy wizard named Harry Potter.

In fact, after seven years playing JK Rowling's creation there can't be many places where the 19-year-old isn't known.

Dressed simply in a red shirt and jeans, Daniel scans the hotel suite in London with curiosity. But once he starts talking about something, the words just flow in a torrent of excitement.

Harry Potter And The Half-Blood Prince, the sixth film in the highly successful franchise, once again pits Harry and his faithful side-kicks Ron Weasley (Rupert Grint) and Hermione Granger (Emma Watson) against dark forces.

With the evil Voldemort on the rise, the students at Hogwarts have to be ever more vigilant about who is among them.

Returning teacher Professor Horace Slughorn (Jim Broadbent) provides Harry with valuable knowledge about his former pupil Tom Riddle, a boy who would grow up to become a threat to the wizarding world.

There's also romance in the air, as Ron gets a new girlfriend, making Hermione jealous, and Harry kisses Ron's sister Ginny (Bonnie Wright) for the first time.

"It was weird, because I've known Bonnie since she was nine. When Katie Leung was brought in to play Cho (Harry's first love), we all knew she was going to be the love interest, but with Bonnie as Ginny, she was just



LOVE INTEREST: Harry Potter actor Daniel Radcliffe

brought in to play Ron's little sister, so it was kind of odd kissing her."

That said, Daniel claims he wasn't nervous about the scene. Partly because he had just been performing in a West End and Broadway production of Seventies play Equus, which involved getting his clothes off every night.

For all the fame and money – he reportedly signed a contract worth more than £25m for the final Harry Potter films – Daniel's

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a normal, if fairly intellectual, teenager.

During breaks from filming, he and Rupert play table tennis, or watch daytime TV and old war movies. He writes poetry in his spare time and stays in touch via letters.

Daniel and his co-stars are a few months into a 19-month shoot for the seventh and eighth films. The final book, Harry Potter And The Deathly Hallows, has been split into two.

In his first post-Potter role, he's set to play photographer Dan Eldon, who was killed in Somalia, aged 22, in The Journey Is The Destination – funding permitting.

"It is a long way off at the moment, but it's potentially a very exciting thing for me."

**HARRY POTTER  
AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE**  
Certificate 12A



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Various | UK | 1926 – 1955 | 83 mins | B&W  
Sun 26 – 2.50pm
- **Blue Eyelids Párpados azules 15**  
Tue 28 & Wed 29 – 6.50pm
- **O'Horten 12A**  
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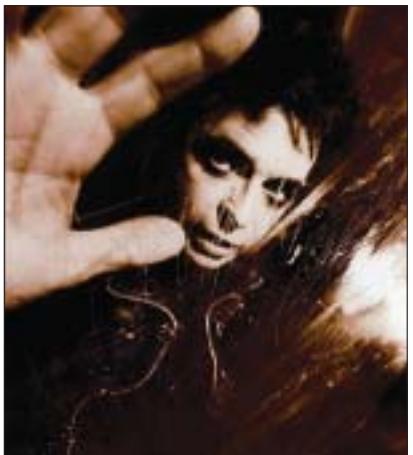
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# yourmedwaymusic

# Festival is Hevy-ing with great alternative bands



**MAKING MUSIC:** Electro-pop star Gary Newman, top, and Hundred Reasons will be at the Hevy Music Festival

MUSIC often mirrors life, in as much that bad things in the industry also come in threes; Atomic Kitten, 911 and Cleopatra being three examples of terrible trios.

As always, however, there is an equal yin to the yang. For us Kentish folk we have summer music festivals.

Having already enjoyed the Hop Farm and Lounge on the Farm weekenders, next up we have the Hevy one-dayer, completing the trio of good events.

Take that Atomic Kitten.

The Folkestone beach event – taking place on Saturday, August 1 – features 25 bands and singers across three outdoor stages.

Among the biggest draws are British rockers Feeder, Ash and Hundred Reasons and 80s superstar Gary Numan.

The majority of the bill is dedicated to lesser-known, more obscure bands.

A Hevy Music Festival spokesman claimed this was their intention, saying: "There are

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

many fantastic new festivals being developed in Kent this year.

"Having grown up in Canterbury, it's great to see so much live music being offered in this corner of the UK. To try to create something a bit different, and cater for a market that we felt could do with some attention, we're developing this as an alternative music festival.

"For our first year we're keeping things simple, with a one-day event featuring a diverse line-up of huge bands from the world of alternative music.

"We're hoping to develop the event next year, with more bands on more stages, possibly over a number of days."

Tickets to the festival cost £48 and are available from [www.hevy.co.uk](http://www.hevy.co.uk) or Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone, the Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury, and the Winter Gardens, Margate.

Gates open at 1pm. For more information, visit [www.hevy.co.uk](http://www.hevy.co.uk).

**MAIN STAGE:** Feeder, Ash, Gary Numan, The Blackout, Hundred Reasons, Attack! Attack!, Sonic Boom Six, In Case Of Fire

**SECOND STAGE:** Cancer Bats, We Are The Ocean, The Ghost Of A Thousand, The Xcerts, Heartbreak, Sharks, Farewell City, Mexico Fallz, After The Ordeal

**THIRD STAGE:** LightsGoBlue, More Than Normal, Amber Room, One Day Elliott, Elephants, The Startover, Kingskin, Eleven Eleven

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**SHOCKING:** Electro-synth stars Golden Silvers at Lounge on the Farm



**LOUNGING AROUND:** Los Salvadores perform at the same event



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- 2 Neonhalo - 20/8 The Beacon Court Gillingham
- 3 Shadow Aspect - 29/8 Westcoast bar Margate
- 4 The Suspects - 4/9 The Hare & Hounds Maidstone
- 5 Backburner - 19/9 The Clarence Hotel Hastings

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## History rises from desert sands

■ BY EMILY BEAUMENT

THERE'S more to Egypt than the Pyramids of Giza and a trip deep into the western desert reveals one of its less well-known treasures.

A three-hour drive south from the coastal town of Marsa Matruh, and 350 miles south-west of bustling Cairo, Siwa Oasis is a dust-coloured settlement that has changed little in centuries.

But the 'oasis of a million palm trees' is more than a patch of green in an expanse of sandy desert. It boasts several ancient ruins, including the Temple of the Oracle linked to Alexander the Great and its own 'mountain of the dead' containing ancient tombs.

The palm trees which give the city its name and are so important to the area that they cannot be chopped down.

As a result, our hotel had several trees protruding through the dining room and up into the terrace where they cast a welcome shadow from the sun.

Unlike the Western bustle of Cairo, Siwa is a traditional place – the women are totally covered in public and there isn't a drop of alcohol to buy. However, they don't mind if you bring your own.

We headed out of town to see some of the places originally settled by the Bedouin before they moved into Siwa, as well as the salt lakes and springs which rise like mirages out of the desert.

One of the highlights of the trip was the desert safari, where we stopped at an oasis lake for a swim, before heading to a part of the desert littered with the fossils of seashells dating back millions of years to when the Sahara was at the bottom of the sea.

We also went to Giza, where the crowds of tourists, the camel-ride salesmen and the



**ANCIENT RELIC:** The Temple of the Oracle can be dated back to Alexander the Great and its 'mountain of the dead'

security searches are as much a part of the experience as the Pyramids themselves.

Our Egyptologist guide dismissed a number of the theories about the Pyramids – including the belief they were built by slaves – but told us their dimensions were perfect for withstanding earthquakes.

We got a chance to see belly dancing and whirling dervishes on a Nile cruise, which fabulously showed off the capital city by night.

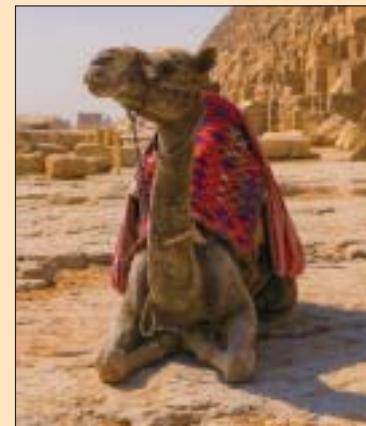
It was a world away from the donkey carts and sunsets over the desert of Siwa, and hard to believe the two places were part of the same country – and the one trip.

### FACT FILE: EGYPT

Time difference	+Three hours (GMT)
Capital	Cairo
Language	Arabic
Population	76 million
Currency	Egyptian pound
Religion	Muslim
Climate	Arid

### Travel details

Emily Beament was a guest of On the Go Tours, which offers the seven-day Siwa to Alexandria group tour from £549 (land-only), monthly through 2009. Package includes B&B accommodation, two lunches, two dinners, guide, all transfers. Return flights into Cairo are arranged by On the Go from regional departure points. Reservations: 020 7371 1113 and [www.onthegotours.com](http://www.onthegotours.com).



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## WOMEN seeking men

### MATCH OF THE DAY!

Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, a woman who loves football! Enjoying going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494 **T**

### A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Hi I'm Katie, caring, fun-loving, 5ft5, slim single mum of 2. Enjoy clubbing out and cosy nights in with genuine man. Box 453269 **T**

### IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU BABY

Caring and honest lady, 25, blue eyes, blonde hair looking for a sweet, caring and respectful non-smoking man, 25-35, for love, friendship and LTR. Box 879522 **T**

### NOT YOUR

BROWN-EYED GIRL, BUT...

Blue-eyed brunnette, 29, 5ft1, loves films, walking, darts, pool, singing, my time! Looking for honest guy with GSOH, to get to know. Box 880105

### YOURS AND YOURS ONLY

Attractive, down-to-earth British-Indian single mum, 29, WLTM white British male, 29-34, no ties for long-term relationship. Box 883431 **T**

### GIVE AND TAKE IN LOVE

Loving loyal female, 30, blue eyes, brown hair, seeking LTR with male 30-35, fits, no baggage, in the Maidstone area. Box 448471 **T**

### SEEKING MR DARCY

Warm, kind and sincere woman, 31, lots of love and loyalty for the right person, seeking an honest genuine man with a good heart. Box 451004

### HORSES FOR COURSES...

Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5ft2, blonde likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 389401

### HAPPY DAYS!

Attractive, fun-loving female, 31, 5ft4, size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734 **T**

### IN THE COUNTRY

Are you the one? I'm 33, single, 5ft2, pure country lass from farming background, seeking my lovely country man to make me forever happy. Box 892265 **T**

### GOOD LUCK CHARM

Sporty female, 34, 5ft2, likes the gym, beach walks, Tennis and cycling, WLTM similar male in his 30s for friendship in Eastbourne. Box 453712

### A FAIRYTALE ENDING!

Princess Fiona, 34, looking to meet her Shrek, 5ft8, short brown/blonde hair, blue eyes, large build, seeks romantic caring guy for friendship, maybe more! Box 877957 **T**

### FEAST YOUR EYES ON ME...

Hello I'm Andrea, 35, petite 5ft3, shoulder length curly hair. I enjoy eating out, cinema and I'm looking for friendship and possible long term relationship. Box 453039 **T**

### SOULD GOOD?

Hello I'm 35, kind, caring and non-smoking, enjoy cooking, cinema, music, dining in and out, looking for that special someone to enjoy a relationship. Box 447595 **T**

### SEALED WITH A KISS

Petite lady, 36, long hair, blue eyes, single mum, enjoys holidays, wine and dining, laughing, seeks loyal, loving man for friendship and more. Box 453079 **T**

### STARRY NIGHTS

Hello I'm Sarah, single mum from Kent, brown hair enjoy swimming nights in/out looking for a caring man to share the best thing in life. Box 878378 **T**

### GALLOP AHEAD!

Maidstone-based woman, 36, 5ft5, slim, blue eyes, I'm caring, honest and have 4 children. Enjoy drives and horse riding and WLTM honest, reliable man. Box 451311 **T**



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### SEIZE THE DAY

Loving female, 36, 5ft4, brown hair, blue eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666 **T**

### BLONDE AMBITION

Bubbly, cuddly, blonde single mum, 39, 5ft6, likes cars, reading, pubs, cosy nights in, having a laugh, looking for that right male for LTR. Box 905614 **T**

### CUTE AS CAN BE

Cute single mum of four, 38, Kent-based, into most things, looking for friendship, possibly romance. Box 897983 **T**

### A SOUL MATE

Black Christian girl, 39, likes country music, loving, considerate, kind and caring, looking for a like-minded man, 32-50, with a pretty inside. Box 453066 **T**

### ENTHUSIASM ENCOURAGED!

Lovely pretty big-busted lady, 39, medium build, 5ft5, lots of energy! likes the gym, reading, new experiences! seeking a nice man for potential exciting relationship! Box 446724

### A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE

Lovely, glossy Brunette, 39yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys the arts, music and eating out. WLTM a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551 **T**

### PERFECT MATCH

Hi I'm Nikki, 5ft7, brown hair, green eyes, enjoys animals especially my pets. Looking for a tall man who has a personality compatible with mine. Box 453374 **T**

### YOUNG-AT-HEART

Attractive 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, sees loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893 **T**

### JOINED AT THE HIP

Sociable petite girl with great SOH, 40, blonde, sociable, love football! Looking for a guy with great SOH for inseparable partnership. Box 880434 **T**

### TO THE STARS

Woman with a great sense of humour, I'm 40 and I like going out, astrology, writing and socialising. How about you? Kent area. Box 453877 **T**

### BETWEEN US

Asian lady, 41, single, no ties, out going, fun loving, professional, looking for a white male, genuine, professional and solvent. Box 451900 **T**

### FOR A RELATIONSHIP?

Shy but confident once-known female, 40, likes socialising, tennis, walking, swimming; seeks gent with similar interests to find hopefully love with. Box 452106 **T**

### THE WIT TO WOO!

Kent female, 40, 5ft7, dark eyes, GSoh, no ties, likes cosy nights in, socialising, country pubs, cinema, seeks loyal, caring male, for friendship & more. Box 152862 **T**

### LIFE IS GIVING

Down-to-earth lady, 42, sincere, honest and reliable, looking for a male for friendship first, going out, enjoying evenings and perhaps something more later. Box 449712 **T**

### BELLA ISABEL

Lovely, fun and caring brunnette, 42, recently divorced, intelligent, hard working, fun-loving, WLTM a gent to socialise with. Box 872520 **T**

### LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL

Good-looking brunnette from Kent, 43, 5ft10, likes bowling, eating in/out etc. Looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with GSOH for friendship/relationship. Box 450348 **T**

### ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?

Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 443466 **T**

### THIS IS YOU?

43yr old woman, divorced, single mum, a Christian, genuine and honest, loyal. Looking for a similar male, a non-smoker, a professional, Kent area. Box 453580 **T**

### YOU NEVER KNOW

Kind, loving and caring mum, 43, 5ft5, round but cuddly! Just looking for someone to share my life with...how about you? St Leonards-on-Sea. Box 446457 **T**

### TLCS ON OFFER FOR THE RIGHT PERSON!

Blonde, blue eyed woman, 44, fun-loving, looking for Mr Right. I love going out, nights in, movies, walking, local gigs. WLTM the right man for TLC. Box 880280 **T**

### BE MY FRIEND AND LOVER

Bubbly, caring lady, 47, divorced with 2 teenagers, dark hair, medium build, into cooking, driving, love to laugh and have fun, seeking a normal guy. Box 425952 **T**

### ALL THAT I NEED

Young-looking, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving, outgoing, N/S, GSoh, love music, holidays, going out, staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50. Aylesford. Box 442883 **T**

### LOVE TO MEET YOU

Kind woman, 42, outgoing, happy-go-lucky, sometimes shy. I like gardening, socialising, travel, walks. Looking for happy, fun fella. Aylesford Box 428464 **T**

### SHARE A BOTTLE

This is Diane, I'm 51, 5ft7, quite curvy, very social, honest and friendly. I work full-time and want to spend time with a nice man. Box 453370 **T**

### PUT SPARK INTO LIFE

Caring slim female, 48, 5ft2, like meals out, cinema, walks, gardening and golf, looking for a kind and loving companion. Box 60-63. Box 450581 **T**

### FOR YOUR LOVE

Caring, reliable, attractive male, 36, dark hair/blue eyes, N/S, no ties. GSoh, sociable, seeks kind, down-to-earth, attractive female, for company and hopefully romance. Margate. Box 410245 **T**

### A NEW LEAF

Genuine, caring male, loving and hardworking. Young 40, slim, 5ft10, blue eyes. WLTM woman with similar qualities. Kent. Box 453576 **T**

### I'LL MAKE YOU SMILE

Keith from Kent, 40, two children, like walking, swimming, cycling, very fun-loving, looking for a girl with similar interests. Box 453111 **T**

### FRIENDS FIRST

Caring, understanding chap, 40, 5ft7, blue eyes/brown hair, slim/average I'm easygoing, relaxed and like travel, music, film, restaurants, theatre, days out, badminton. Box 451361 **T**

### A NEW LIFE

Quite a little bit shy! widower, 41, loves cooking, WLTM older lady for a serious relationship. Box 452701 **T**

### LOVE ON THE DANCEFLOOR

Outgoing, young-minded male, 47, smoker, likes war games, books, cinema, castles, places of interest, dancing, seeking a similar woman to boogie on the dancefloor with. Box 448750 **T**

### FUN AND MAYBE MORE

Passionate female, 37, new to town, WLTM passionate, genuine companions to socialise with, go out and have some fun, then see what happens. Ashford. Box 450582 **T**

### LET'S BUILD A ROMANCE

Hello, I'm Simon, 43, single man in Kent own a construction co. Muscular build, blue-eyed, ruggedly handsome. Looking for a honest and genuine lady. Box 453322 **T**

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**STILL SEARCHING...**

Margate guy, 52, easygoing, 5ft8, average build. I going out, meals out and hoping to meet someone special. Box 453763 **T**

**TREAT YOU RIGHT**

Fit and attractive male, 52, 5ft7, slim and keeps fit, likes art, reading, poetry, cycling, tennis, WLTM woman of similar age for good times. Box 452988 **T**

**FIT THE BILL?**

Old romantic, 55, non-smoker, likes watching football, driving, holidays and romance! looking for a female 45+ who wants to have the good old days back! Box 452051 **T**

**READY OR NOT**

56yr old genuine, slim Scorpio male, 5ft8", dark hair, like watching tv, computer games, animals, walks, socialising, seeking attractive female for friendship/more. Box 453677 **T**

**LIFE'S FOR SHARING**

Hi ladies, I'm an easygoing male, 35, 5ft9, medium build, fair, brown hair, I'm based in Brighton and enjoy seeing friends, drinks, cinema, walks. Box 450165 **T**

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Widowed gent, 55, 5ft6, fair hair, fit/active, slim/medium build, OHAC. I'm a plumber and WLTM woman only in Canterbury/Dover/Folkestone areas, someone slim/medium, with a GSOH. Box 453758 **T**

**I KNOW YOU'RE OUT THERE!**

57yr old widower, 5ft10, medium build, slim/medium build, hair, like watching tv, computer games, animals, sports, looking for that special woman to share my life with. Box 451450 **T**

**A SINCERE GENTLEMAN**

Non-smoking male, 57, 5ft11, medium build with hazel eyes, likes classic cars, meals out, looking for a special person to take out and share company. Box 450068 **T**

**ACTIVE LIKE ME?**

Romantic, loving male, 61, 5ft10, slim, fit/build, likes walking, cycling, seeking a mate, 27, likes walking, cycling, seeking a mate for life. Box 448326 **T**

**CATCH ON THE MARKET**

Honest, caring 37 year old that still thinks he's 20, likes cinema, pubs, clubs, seeking a mate for long term relationship. Box 448566 **T**

**DREAMS OF YOU?**

Honest, caring 37 year old that still thinks he's 20, likes cinema, pubs, clubs, seeking a mate for long term relationship. Box 448566 **T**

**DIVORCED**

Seeking gent, 55, 5ft6, medium build, likes walking, cycling, seeking a mate for friendship. Box 449187 **T**

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Sensual/intellectual wanted by same! Must be in good shape for outdoor activities and internal sophistication. Please call at once and will reply! Box 877185 **T**

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**MAKE ME SMILE**

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**YOU FOR ME & ME FOR YOU...**

Thoughtful, caring, divorced male, 47, athletic/muscular, black hair, enjoys concerts, walks on the beach and eating out. WLTM lady with similar characteristics for LTR. Box 447179 **T**

**LOOKING FOR SOMETHING MORE**

Young-looking 50 yr old, fairly shy, non-smoker, loves travel, walking and meals out...hoping to meet a nice guy for relationship. Box 452631 **T</b**

## PROPERTY NEWS

### Lender offers 125% to tackle negative equity

THE Nationwide Building Society is offering a 125 per cent mortgage, but it is only available to existing customers in negative equity who want to move house.

The UK's largest building society said it was a "niche offer" and not everyone in negative equity will be eligible.

These types of loans have been criticised in the past, and since the credit crunch have been withdrawn from the market altogether.

They were available at the height of the property boom and borrowers were immediately placed in negative equity once house prices began their descent.

The Financial Services Authority is considering restricting mortgage loans to 100 per cent of a property's value.

Meanwhile, under the Nationwide's new offer, borrowers would take out a loan for 95 per cent of the value of their new property at a fixed rate of 6.73 per cent for three years or 7.48 per cent for five years.

The interest rates for the additional borrowing, up to another 30 per cent, rise to 7.23 per cent and 7.98 per cent respectively.

### First-time buyers get cash help from parents

CASH gifts and loans from parents and other family members are boosting the housing market for young first-time buyers.

Data from the Council of Mortgage Lenders says 80 per cent of first-time buyers under the age of 30 are likely to have received help from parents to make the 25 per cent downpayment now required by the majority of lenders, the council says.

In 2006, this figure was about 40 per cent.

However, figures are still down on similar statistics for 12 months ago, despite the rally.

Some 14,000 loans to buy homes were made to first-time buyers in May, up 2 per cent from April but still almost 30 per cent down on May 2008.

However, the data also suggests that lenders are no longer tightening their criteria when it comes to putting out money, a trend which has been evident since late last year.

Average loans to first-time buyers were almost three times income in May, the same as April, according to the findings.



# Recovery hindered by under-valuations

■ BY NICK AMES



OBSTACLE: Lenders' surveyors have been accused of under-valuing property to restrict lending

PEOPLE looking to buy a new home are being thwarted by banks offering mortgages below the builder's asking price, two of the country's largest homebuilders claim.

Barratt Developments and Redrow have accused banks of stalling the housing market's recovery by downgrading their valuations on new properties in a bid to restrict lending.

The activity means that househunters have to come up with more cash than they would normally need to complete purchases.

Redrow said the "widespread practice of downvaluation by surveyors representing mortgage lenders" posed a "major obstacle to the recovery of the housing market".

Having agreed a price with the prospective buyer, Redrow said deals were then being undermined when surveyors valued the homes at less than the asking price.

This meant that potential buyers could only get a mortgage for the valuation price, leaving them to either come up with a larger deposit or pull out of the sale.

Redrow, which saw completed sales slide 46 per cent to 2,113 in the 12 months to the end of June, blamed the gap in valuation for about two-thirds of its cancellation rate of 20 per cent as potential buyers were forced to give up on buying the property.

Steve Morgan, company chairman, said: "It's not happening all the time, but there are too many incidents of it. We're seeing a tremendous discrepancy over valuation."

Newly-built houses can be more expensive compared with older houses, but a Redrow spokesman said there were cost savings associated with newer homes, such

as included energy efficiency. The concern was echoed by Mark Clare, chief executive of Barratt Developments, who said the policy was creating a "two-scheme mortgage sector".

"Someone who has equity or savings might be able to manage, but a first-time buyer might be left in a situation where they can't proceed," he said.

He added that one of the key problems was surveyors comparing a new-build to an older house.

"We're not asking for new-builds to be valued at a premium, but for them to be valued appropriately," said Mr Clare. "If we can't get the right price, we will remarket the property."

Mr Clare added that the current situation was more buoyant and "dramatically different" to the autumn, when the company was trying to reduce stock and had to take what was being offered.

"We're now building to order," he said.

Barry Hall, of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, said the initial builder's price was not necessarily a market valuation.

"If a surveyor values the house at less than the asking price, that's presented as a downvaluing, but that's a myth," he said.

He added that there was "nothing wrong" with lenders asking surveyors asked to value a house as second-hand rather than new, but added he was "not convinced" that the lender always made this clear to the buyer.

Mr Hall said there had been problems in the past with housebuilders adding incentives to the cost of a new house such as fitted carpets or a year's free groceries, masking the real price.

A spokesman for the Home Builders Federation said: "There is an issue with valuations and it's a concern to the industry."

"We are trying to work with the lenders, their representatives and the Government to find ways to improve the situation."

# Signs of growing confidence

OPTIMISM in the housing market is rising in the South East as potential buyers continue to show interest, according to the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors.

A survey for June found that confidence is returning, thanks to a rise in price expectations, supported by low levels of stocks on surveyors' books and increasing buyer enquiries.

Evidence that activity in the housing market is picking up, albeit from very low levels, has increased surveyor optimism.

The net balance of surveyors in the region

expecting price increases rose, with 29 per cent expecting house prices to rise, compared with a negative reading of five per cent in May.

The rise in optimism has been driven by the continuing upturn in buyer enquiries and falling levels of fresh supply.

The survey also contains more definitive signs that the rebound in enquiries is now feeding thorough into increased transactions.

Sales rose again, with the average numbers of properties sold over the past three months rising to 12.7, up from 11.7 in May.

Jeremy Leaf, RICS South East spokesman, said: "Although the market is showing signs of improvement, it is unlikely that there will be a sustained recovery while mortgage lenders remain risk-adverse."

"A lack of supply on the market is providing a platform for modest price increases."

"While supply remains tight, the market is likely to show tentative signs of progress, but instructions are starting to increase and will dampen any serious improvement while economic conditions remain uncertain."

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## Green shoots of recovery appear in the market

Thinking of selling? Don't delay - the market is coming back to life. In February, new buyer registrations rose by 17 percent and agreed sales by 36 percent\*. And, importantly, first time buyers returned with a vengeance with more than double\*\* looking to buy in the first two weeks of January. It's good news for the market and great news if you are thinking of selling. **Act now.**

\*Source: 'Hometrack Mar 09. \*\*National Association of Estate Agents Mar 09.



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## MOTORS NEWS



### Dealers offer an early sighting of Skoda Yeti

SKODA adds the completely new Yeti two and all-wheel-drive range to its line-up in September, but certain Kent dealers are offering sneak previews by using early production left-hand drive cars.

Sherlodge Garage of Gillingham plans a Yeti open day on July 30, while Adamsons of Deal is offering demonstration drives two days earlier on July 28.

The chunky looks are not just for show either; 4x4 Yetis have an off-road button to adjust the chassis and driving aids to boost grip and traction in tricky conditions.



### Banger deal is worth £4,000 off new Leon

SEAT dealers have unveiled a stunning scrappage package worth as much as £4,000 off the stylish VW Golf-based Leon family hatchback.

Dover dealer, Hollis Motors confirmed a price of under £10,000 for the 1.6 S Emocion special edition this week, for anyone part exchanging a car at least 10 years old that they are willing to send for scrap.

The deal comprises a £2,000 discount under the Government-sponsored scheme plus a further £2,000 donated by the VW-owned Spanish marque.



### Mini celebrate its big Five-Oh down at Bewl

BEWL Water, near Tunbridge Wells, aims to be a Mini mecca from July 31 to August 2 when the Southern Mini Owners' Club stages 'Golden Mini Days' – a celebration of 50 years of the motoring icon.

Attractions at the reservoir at Lamberhurst will include car displays, Minis on sale, workshop demos, races and wacky events such as 'Loudest Exhaust', trade stalls, music and lots of fun. Free camping is included in the admission. Go to [www.southernminidays.co.uk](http://www.southernminidays.co.uk) or [www.bewl.co.uk](http://www.bewl.co.uk).



**SMALL BUT PERFECTLY FORMED:** Kia's Soul is an urban crossover which can be customised and personalised to suit the buyer, an option which rivals that of the Mini and Fiat 500

# Kia's Soul wows drivers on more than just price

PRICE usually dominates any discussion about Kias.

Yet 'how much?' was not the first thing I was asked when driving the Korean marque's new Soul.

It helped that I was driving the eye-catching £14,995 top of the range Soul Burner 'Original' though, with its 'Quartz Black' paint complemented by roof rails, rear spoiler, red grille and door mirrors plus 18-inch black and chrome alloys. Oh, and there are dragon decals crawling across the car.

There's no respite inside: red highlights and dragon motif mats assault the eye while a 'soulful' sound system comes with 315-watt output, dash-top boombox and front door speakers that can light up or throb red to the beat.

All proof that Kia has found itself at last – the brand's name actually means 'to come out' in Korean – with this 'urban crossover' available with customisation and personalisation options to rival the Mini and Fiat 500 cult stars.

Brick-like styling is largely influenced by the SUV (sports utility vehicle) vogue of recent years, without the sheer bulk and waste of

## ROAD TEST KIA SOUL

■ BY STEVE LOADER

### STAR QUALITY

#### Driving appeal



#### Image



#### Space



#### Value



#### Running costs



#### Reliability



#### Green rating



extra motive power to the rear end.

A high lift tailgate accesses a huge boot with deep underfloor storage; fold the rear seats and you can cram the car to its high roofline – Kia claims it will take two mountain bikes.

The Soul is a deceptively tidy drive too with good levels of grip and a sporty nature yet decent ride, all helped by a wide track and long wheelbase.

You get the 4x4 high driving position and image without the heaviness and wallowing on the corners.

Engine choice is a 1.6-litre petrol or diesel with 124 and 126bhp respectively. The latter is smoother with more low-down punch and should average at least 10mpg more than its petrol sister. The nose feels weightier and better planted when pressing on too.

However, the diesel option adds a grand to the price of whichever model you choose.

On the other hand, there is no need to be miserly with prices from £10,495 plus a five-year unlimited mileage warranty and generous standard kit. For that you get a capacious and funky family motor at a supermini price – though don't expect supermini economy with such pugnacious styling.



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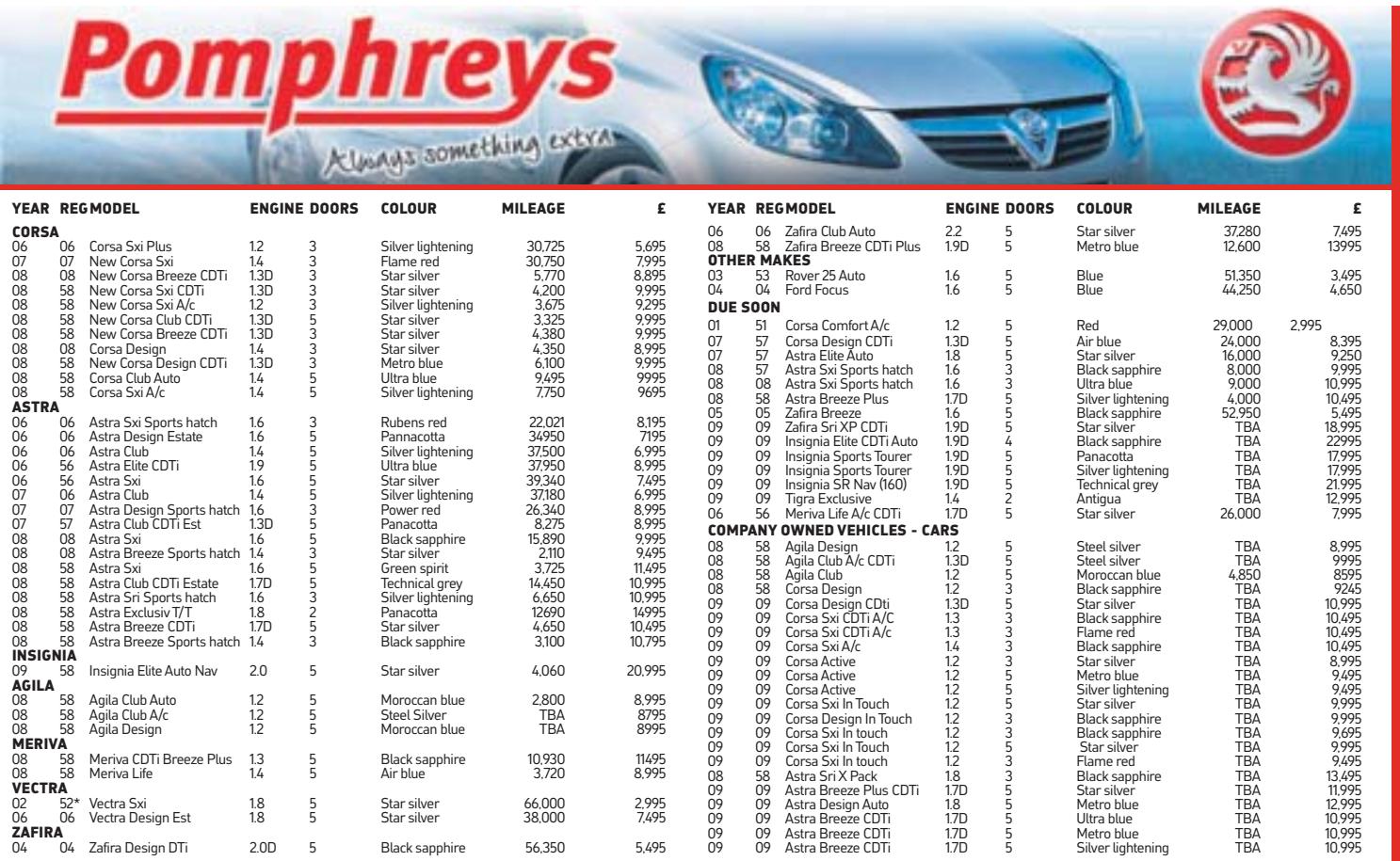
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**Official Government Test Environmental Data - Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): Corsa SXi 1.3CDTi (75PS): urban 49.6 (5.7), extra-urban 74.3 (3.8) combined 62.8 (4.5). CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 119g/km.**

Model shown has optional metallic paint available at extra cost. 3 Years 0% Finance available with 20% minimum deposit. Finance by GMAC UK plc. applicants must be aged 18 or over. Finance offer available at participating retailers. UK supplied vehicles only. Guarantee/indemnity may be required. To be eligible for the Corsa Free Insurance offer Corsa SXi drivers must be aged 19-80 and will need to have held a full EU/UK driving licence for at least 2 years. A compulsory excess of £250 will apply. Please note that additional excesses do apply in respect of young drivers and modifications. Vauxhall Motor Insurance is underwritten by Provident Insurance plc, authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. Free insurance in Northern Ireland is underwritten by AXA Insurance Limited, regulated by the Financial Regulator and obliged to comply with the ICBG rules issued by the Financial Services Authority. The free involuntary redundancy cover is optional and is offered to customers who take out a finance agreement with GMAC from a participating FSA authorised retailer. The cover, which is subject to eligibility, is for the first 24 months of the finance agreement (excluding the first 90 days, and is up to a maximum of 12 monthly payments). Terms and conditions apply (see Retailer for further details of cover). The insurance is provided by Finance Insurance Company Limited. Other providers of redundancy cover are available, for more information see [www.moneymadeclear.fsa.gov.uk](http://www.moneymadeclear.fsa.gov.uk). £2000 Government Scrappage Allowance is dependent on the vehicle meeting the full Government Scrappage incentive criteria. The Government Scrappage payment applies to vehicles registered on or before 31.08.99 when traded in against a new car subject to conditions. All offers available to private individuals. Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks. Offers apply to selected new vehicles ordered or registered between 03.07.09 and 01.10.09, and are subject to status, eligibility, terms and conditions. (Vaux75614)



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# USED CAR ROUND-UP:

## OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

### FORD MONDEO



ONCE the UK's favourite car, its fall from favour reflects changing tastes rather than the Mondeo's ability. The car's greatest weakness has been the bonnet badge - something the current generation car tries to overcome with Germanic quality and detail. Nevertheless, the previous car was well-built, superb to drive and incredibly spacious. Apart from the best-selling hatchback there is a saloon and one of the roomiest and best-looking estates in the sector.

#### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

### FAMILY CARS

THIS sector used to dominate the UK car market, but sales have been eroded by new categories such as the 4x4 sports utility vehicle and MPV and encroachment by upmarket compact executive models like the BMW 3-Series, which outsells Ford's former UK market leader, the Mondeo, in some months. Nevertheless, many second-hand car buyers still like the idea of a spacious, comfortable and more conventional family runabout and prices can be very affordable, so here are three popular and contrasting sellers based on ability and value.

### CITROEN C5



CITROEN'S latest C5 is a stunner inside and out and lives up to ads suggesting that 'the Germans' may be worried. The old car was less of a threat, but never mind the looks - look at the prices. The original C5 has actually proved to be a reliable and great value used buy, with a pliant ride and loads of space; the estate is enormous for anyone needing to cart lots of stuff and diesels are the star buy.

#### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

### VW PASSAT



VW'S previous Passat set a higher benchmark for quality and the new version raised the bar again. The German giant knows the best way to counter upmarket rivals, including sister marque Audi, was by upping the standard of the overall package, so the new Passat is more spacious, drives better than previous models and looks good. Factor in some of the best engines, petrol or diesel, choice of saloon or capacious estate, plus modest used prices and it looks irresistible.

#### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
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FRONT BRAKES & DISCS	£139.99	£195.05	£178.99
CLUTCHES	£329.99	£466.74	N/A

Price comparisons based on a 2004 Peugeot 206 1.4 petrol model, competitor prices taken from their web sites, comparison prices correct on 08/05/09, prices do not take into account any local special offers.

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### FIAT

GRANDE PUNTO, gd08axs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, remote locking, blue, 7500 miles, £6495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

### FORD

C-MAX, 1.8 Titanium 5dr, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear

wheels, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, folding rear seats, heated screen, locking wheel nuts. Insurance group:8, silver, 26251 miles, £10995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Ghia 5dr \*\*FULL LEATHER+735 ROAD TAX\*\*, ce08knb, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:5, silver, 18323 miles, £8990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5dr [Euro4] [Climate Pack], en57xpf, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear

seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, insurance group:6, black, 32889 miles, £9990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FUSION, 1.6 Zetec 5dr Auto [Climate], ly08hwc, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:6, orange, 17613 miles, £7290, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, ExV Luton TD1 115ps DRW, na55uzd, luton van, full dealer facilities, tail lift, white, 66000 miles, £8795, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

### MAZDA

BT-50, Single Cab Pick Up, lx08ymg, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp-leasing, warranty, warranted mileage, silver, 3468 miles, £7499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

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A150, 5 DOOR Classic SE, 2009, mistral blue, 3500 miles, £13998, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

ML320 CDI, Sport, 2008, obsidian black metallic, 14188 miles, £28860, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

ML320 CDI, Sport COMAND, 2008, obsidian black metallic, 13000 miles, £29997, Maidstone, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

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SLK200 KOMPRESSOR, 2004, black, 39800 miles, £16940, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

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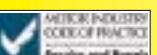
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**To discuss your interest in this post or for additional information, please call Ken Pullan on 07725128661. Completed applications should be forwarded to [ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk)**

**Closing date: 10th August 2009**



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**CRICKET**

■ BY DAVID PRITCHARD

**Kent Cricket League Division One**

Lordswood 1st XI v Orpington 1st XI

LYNDON Lockhart's rapid century maintained Lordswood's procession to the Division One title as Orpington were beaten by 83 runs at Martin Grove.

Lockhart's 108 came from just 107 balls and helped the hosts to a total which was well beyond the relegation-threatened visitors.

The Lords came into Saturday's game unbeaten in their ten league fixtures, with the majority of victories coming when batting second. Perhaps with this in mind, Orpington opted to put their opponents in first after winning the toss.

Although the home side lost Alan Pattenden cheaply, the decision appeared to have backfired as Chris Thompson and Lockhart quickly piled on the runs. Dylan Robertson briefly put the game in the balance as he ran out Thompson for 51 and then removed Efren Cruz and Jeremy Greaves in quick succession.

But as so often happens with a team in form, when others fail someone steps up. Matt Iles put on 102 with Lockhart for the fifth wicket to restore order and Lordswood eventually finished on 277 for 7.

In reply, Orpington were never able to put together the substantial partnership needed to put pressure on Lordswood. After a gritty start, Darren Scott took two wickets in quick succession to reduce the visitors to 105 for 6, leaving Orpington with a mountain to climb.

The Lords used eight bowlers, six of whom took wickets as Orpington eventually succumbed in the 45th over. A tenth victory in 11 games saw Lordswood extend their lead to a commanding 66 points.

# Division one title is in sight for in-form Lords



**CELEBRATION:** Lordswood's title charge shows no signs of slowing after they beat Orpington on Saturday

## LOCAL CRICKET ROUND-UP

### KENT LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

Upchurch 1st XI v Old Colfeians 1st XI

FOR the third time in four weeks Upchurch were left ruining their luck after the weather intervened to end their game abruptly.

Batting first, all Upchurch's batsmen got starts but were unable to convert them into a big score. It was still enough to give their bowlers something to defend.

The visitors were on the ropes at 161 for 8, but with four overs remaining the game was again brought to an unsatisfactory conclusion. Thanks to results elsewhere, Upchurch's lead remains 13 points.

#### Upchurch

	Runs
Lee Taylor	.ct Grattan b Begg
Andrew Shirley	.b Wijesiriwardena
Hal Pearson	.lbw b Humm
Michael Hales jnr	ct Begg b Wijesiriwardena
Marc Bond	ct Quiller b Wijesiriwardena
Daniel Parker	ct Tarrant b Cullum
Michael Hales	b Wijesiriwardena
Adam Hodder	ct Harmer b Humm
Dean Headley	ct Bahra b Humm
Craig Bewick	ct Lorimer b Humm
Tim Mullis	not out
Extras	(8b 18lb 2w)
Total	28 (all out, 50 overs)
223	

#### Bowlers

	R	M	R	W
Omesh Wijesiriwardena	0	2	48	4
Henry Cullum	12	4	31	1
Irfan Begg	6	0	37	1
Travis Houston	5	2	16	0
Russell Humm	12	1	65	4

#### Old Colfeians

	Runs
Doug Grattan	.lbw b Parker
Richard Harmer	run out Hales jnr.
Travis Houston	.b Hales jnr
Mark Quilter	.lbw b Hodder
Matt Lorimer	.st Shirley b Mullis
Irfan Begg	.lbw b Hales jnr
Omesh Wijesiriwardena	.ct Hodder b Mullis
Manjeet Bahra	.ct Taylor b Headley
Christopher Tarrant	not out
Henry Cullum	not out
Russell Humm	did not bat
Extras	(6b 2lb 3w)
Total	11 (8 wickets, 46 overs)
161	

#### Bowlers

	R	M	R	W
Marc Bond	8	2	18	0
Craig Bewick	7	0	27	0
Daniel Parker	10	3	25	1
Adam Hodder	10	0	38	1
Tim Mullis	5	0	14	2
Michael Hales jnr	5	1	29	2
Dean Headley	1	0	2	1

### KENT LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

Walmer 1st XI v Rainham 1st XI

MARK Parnell's unbeaten half-century proved decisive as Walmer beat promotion-chasing Rainham by four wickets.

Rainham stumbled to 9 for 2, but Matt Goodwin (47) and James Austin (41) put them right back into the game. Despite a series of useful contributions, the visitors' total looked vulnerable.

Walmer, who went into the game just above the bottom two, grasped their opportunity for an upset. Parnell's 66 was instrumental and they reached their target with three overs to spare.

#### Rainham

	Runs
Jonathan Prince	.lbw b Butler
John Newton	.b Holiday
Matt Goodwin	.ct Butler b Butler
James Austin	.ct Holiday b Butler
Callum Mitchell	.ct Morris b Butler
James Sherrod	.not out
Chris Small	.ct Butler b Huntley
Stuart Chipperfield	.ct Parnell b Holiday
Stuart Swaine	.not out
Jordan Shersby	.did not bat
Matthew Newton	.did not bat
Extras	(2b 6lb 11w)
Total	19 (7 wickets, 50 overs)
198	

#### Bowlers

	R	M	R	W
Paul Butler	8	2	24	1
Paul Holiday	12	3	52	2
Barry Green	4	0	22	0
Stuart Butler	13	0	49	3
Peter Huntley	13	2	41	1

#### Walmer

	Runs
Martyn North	.ct Shersby b Mitchell
Joe Wilcox	.b Sherrod
Peter Morris	.ct Austin b Mitchell
Jared Bond	.ct Austin b Sherrod
Mark Parnell	.not out
Martin Pearce	.lbw b Sherrod
Stuart Butler	.ct Austin b Mitchell
Paul Holiday	.not out
Barry Green	.did not bat
Peter Huntley	.did not bat
Paul Butler	.did not bat
Extras	(1b 12lb 5w 14nb)
Total	32 (6 wickets, 47 overs)
199	

#### Bowlers

	R	M	R	W
Callum Mitchell	14	3	41	3
Jordan Shersby	2	0	12	0
James Sherrod	15	0	45	3
Chris Small	8	0	38	0
Matthew Newton	6	0	38	0
Jonathan Prince	2	0	12	0

### KENT FEEDER LEAGUE EAST 1A

Frindsbury 1st XI v Bobbing Court &amp; Lower Halstow 1st XI

A DECENT all-round display saw Frindsbury easily beat Bobbing Court by five wickets on Saturday.

The visitors' openers put on 58 for the first wicket and passed 100 with only two down, but a monumental collapse saw them lose eight wickets for just 21 runs. Dhaiyat Mehta led a superb fielding effort, instigating two run outs.

Frindsbury's top order failed to trouble the scorers unduly. Sam Dudgeon's 57 steered the innings and they got home with almost seven overs still remaining.

#### Bobbing Court and Lower Halstow

	Runs
Richard Gower	.lbw b Dudgeon
Adam Haward	.ct Elliott b Budd
Gary Ryan	.run out
Jehaan Thahir	.b Payne
Daniel Ball	.ct Sait b Payne
Iain Foster	.b Budd
Simon Bennett	.run out
Paul Bacon	.ct Mutteal b Budd
Ian Linsdell	.lbw b Mumford
Dominic Soave	.b Mumford
Craig Haward	.not out
Extras	(2b 6lb 10w)
Total	124 (45 wickets, 46 overs)
19	

#### Bowlers

	R	M	R	W
Chris Mumford	8.2	2	16	2
Matt Payne	12	3	30	2
Robbie Elliott	7	1	28	0
Sam Dudgeon	9	0	22	1
Ian Budd	9	1	24	3

#### Frindsbury

	Runs
Dhaiyat Mehta	.b Bacon
Shivajith Muttal	.ct Haward b Bacon
Robert Sait	.ct Thahir b Bacon
Sam Dudgeon	.ct Haward b Soave
Sam Budd	.b Bacon
Ian Budd	.not out
Dan Reeves	.did not bat
Chris Mumford	.did not bat
Matt Payne	.did not bat
Robbie Elliott	.did not bat
Extras	(9b 4w 2nb)
Total	15 (5 wickets, 39.1 overs)
126	

#### Bowlers

	R	M	R	W
Paul Bacon	12	4	21	4
Simon Bennett	6	1	23	0
Jehaan Thahir	10.1	1	38	0
Ian Linsdell	3	0	16	0
Dominic Soave	8	0	19	1
Jonathan Prince	2	0	12	0

## SCOREBOARD

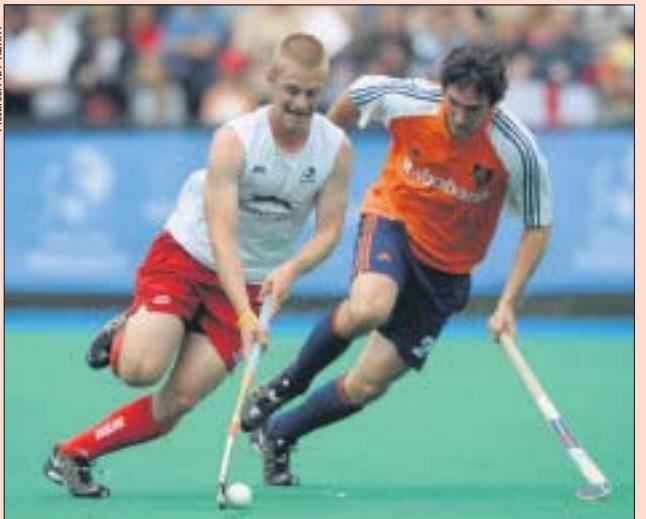
### Lordswood

	Runs		
Chris Thompson	run out		
Alan Pattenden	.lbw b Ingram		
Lyndon Lockhart	.ct Joseph b Bradford		
Efren Cruz	.ct Hall b Robertson		
Jeremy Greaves	.ct Schmidt b Robertson		
Mat Iles	.ct Clarkson b Bradford		
Peter Stock	.b Knight		
Darren Scott	.not out		
James Iles	.not out		
Richard Cross	.did not bat		
Daniel Masters	.did not bat		
Extras (7lb 16w 4nb)	27		
Total (7 wickets, 50 overs)	277		
Bowlers			
0	M	R	W
Patrick Joseph	4	0	20
Stephen Ingram	8	1	35
Neil Bradford	11	0	57
Paul Schmidt	3	0	30
Sam Clarkson	12	0	56
Dylan Robertson	8	1	37
Michael Knight	4	0	35

	Runs		
Patrick Joseph	b J Iles		
Paul Sheldon	ct Cruz b Masters		
Dylan Robertson	.ct Thompson b Scott		
Paul Schmidt	b Thompson		
Sam Clarkson	ct J Iles b M Iles		
Daniel Knight	b Scott		
Simon Whitehead	b Greaves		
Alex Watts	ct Scott b Scott		
Stephen Ingram	run out		
Neil Bradford	.not out		
Richard Hall	run out		
Extras (4b 2lb 5w 5nb)	16		
Total (all out, 44.3 overs)	194		
Bowlers			
0	M	R	W
Daniel Masters	5	1	28
James Iles	6	2	17
Chris Thompson	4	0	26
Richard Cross	8	0	42
Matt Iles	1	0	1
Darren Scott	13	5	37
Peter Stock	2	1	3
Jeremy Greaves	5.3	0	35


# Jackson helps claim victory over Dutch

Pictures ADV KERRY



FULL FLOW: Ashley Jackson in action against the Netherlands

ASHLEY Jackson helped England beat European champions the Netherlands for the first time in five years on Sunday.

The 21-year-old, from Chatham, started the 3-2 win at Bisham Abbey in the one-off Test, which formed part of the side's warm-up for next month's European Championships.

England got off to a great start, opening the scoring after eight minutes. James Tindall won the ball in the Dutch half to start a move which saw the midfielder slot into an empty net.

Matt Daly doubled the lead midway through the half but the visitors pulled a goal back from a penalty corner shortly afterwards.

Jackson, who will have been familiar with most of the opponents since moving to play his club hockey with HGC in the

## HOCKEY

Netherlands, almost scored just after the break. Richard Alexander flashed in a cross at pace, but the midfielder just failed to connect. He made amends shortly afterwards by beating two men and playing in Daly to score his second to make it 3-1.

The Netherlands again reduced the deficit from a penalty corner. It was the start of a concerted spell of pressure, but England held firm largely thanks to several good stops from goalkeeper James Fair.

Jackson will hope to be involved as England step up their preparations for the European Championships when they face India in a three game series at the University of Birmingham next week.

## HOCKEY



LATE: Chatham will finally begin their games tomorrow

## Chats boss hopes new squad won't be undercooked

CHATHAM Town manager Alex O'Brien is hoping his side's late start to pre-season friendlies will not mean they will be under-prepared when the league season starts next month.

With a change of management at Maidstone Road, the Chats did not begin pre-season training until just over a fortnight ago. While many sides have already got several games under their belts, Town will start their games tomorrow night with a rearranged game at Holmesdale after Lordswood cancelled the original fixture due to concerns about their pitch.

O'Brien will have six games to assess his squad, which he admits is not perfect.

"We're a bit behind on our match fitness", he told Yourmedway. "We've been working hard in training and I'm happy with the levels but matches give you another gear."

"Unfortunately the way the summer ended up we couldn't get everyone together until the seventh, but ideally we would have liked it to be a week earlier. I think we'll be as ready as we can be for the start of the season, but the players need games to bond."

One boost is the confirmation of the club's game against League Two side Dagenham & Redbridge. The fixture on August 4 is unlikely to contain many of the club's first-team players, but O'Brien believes it will be a useful exercise.

He said: "It will be a fantastic opportunity for the boys. With games against Football League sides you never quite know who they will bring until the day, but whoever plays they will still be professionals."

Town's squad continues to come together, with two more players set to sign this week. The versatile Ray Powell, former Tonbridge Angels and Dartford, can play at right-back or up front, while goalkeeper Dean Ruddy has joined up with the squad after spells at Lewes and Dover.



Pictures: ADV KERRY



FIRST IMPRESSIONS: Jack Payne has been a success during pre-season, but the club may have to concede defeat in their hope of signing promising full-back Jordan Parkes

# Rooney and Payne give glimpse of bright future

## FOOTBALL

■ BY DAVID PRITCHARD

TEENAGERS Luke Rooney and Jack Payne have been the major surprises in the first half of Gillingham's pre-season, according to manager Mark Stimson.

The Gills boss used the club's first four games, which ended with a 2-0 defeat at Welling on Saturday, to have a good look at everyone in his squad. More than 25 players were given an opportunity to impress in the first week of games. After making his initial assessments, Stimson will now begin to formulate

late his plans for his strongest line-up ahead of the first competitive game of the season in just over a fortnight.

Of the players involved, Stimson highlighted the 18-year-old Rooney - who scored in the first three games - and Jack Payne, 17, as the players who had done the most to move up the pecking order.

He said: "I think Rooney has done really well. He's been very good and very bright. Jack Payne has done well for a young kid in that area of the pitch and I think he could learn from Kevin Maher. The rest have given me what I thought they would if I'm honest."

The squad head to northern France for a training camp tomorrow and could well have at least one new signing among their ranks.

Stimson was hoping to offer trialist Rashid Yussuf a contract earlier this week after a series of composed displays in midfield.

Right-back Sam Long may also be given a deal but Watford's Jordan Parkes may have to move on.

Stimson said: "I understand there's another League One club who can guarantee him a left-back starting role. It's up to the lad to decide because I can't guarantee him that. The other two have potential, they are still learning the game and financially that's the market we're involved in."

The Gills are also hoping to add a centre-back and at least one striker to the squad over the next fortnight. They are due to make a decision on bringing in a defender from another League One side on a short-term loan deal this week.

The Gills were in action at Bishop's Stortford last night. Log on to [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk) for the report. Stimson's side visit Aveley this evening, kick-off is at 7.45pm.

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## Enjoy your barbecue in safety

WHAT better way to enjoy a balmy evening than some healthy barbecue food with friends?

Just don't become one of the 965 cases of people in east Kent turned up at accident and emergency with food poisoning last year – that doesn't include those who suffered nasty fire-related injuries either!

When you're cooking on a barbecue, make sure you:

19. Place your barbecue on a level surface, away from plants and trees.
20. Cover the bottom of your barbecue with coal to a depth of no more than 5cm (2in).
21. Use only recognised firelighters or starter fuel, and then only on cold coals.
22. Wait until coals are glowing red with a powdery grey surface before you start cooking.
23. Wash your hands every time you touch raw meat and keep it separate from other foods.
24. Properly thaw frozen meat before you cook it.
25. Turn meat regularly and move it around the barbecue to cook it evenly.
26. Remember that meat is safe to eat only when it is piping hot in the centre, there is no pink meat visible and the juices are clear.
27. Keep prepared food in the fridge wherever possible and don't leave it out in the sun.

## Avoid bringing back the worst kind of souvenir

A sexually transmitted infection (STI) or unintended pregnancy can be the worst kind of souvenir to bring home. Last year, more than 2,500 sexually transmitted infections were diagnosed in east Kent genitourinary medicine clinics.

28. Always buy a pack of condoms in addition to your normal contraception.
29. Vomiting, diarrhoea, and some medicines, including some antibiotics and some anti-malaria drugs can make the contraceptive pill and some contraceptive implants less effective so always use a condom to help protect against pregnancy and STIs.
30. Only buy condoms with the CE mark on the packet.
31. Keep condoms away from oil-based products such as suntan lotion, baby oil and lipstick.
32. Store condoms in a cool, dry place.

\* For more help and advice on safer sex, visit your pharmacist, call Sexual Health Direct on **0845 122 8690** or go to [www.condomessentialwear.co.uk](http://www.condomessentialwear.co.uk)

## A real stinger

For most people, stings and bites from insects are painful but harmless. However, if you also experience symptoms anywhere else you may be having an allergic reaction and should seek emergency medical treatment.

33. Remove the sting as soon as possible with your fingers or tweezers.
34. Bee stings have a poisonous sac so take care not to puncture it as you remove the sting.
35. Wash the area with soap and water.
36. Put a cold flannel on the area.
37. Raise the part of the body that has been stung or bitten to prevent swelling.
38. Use a spray, or cream, containing local anaesthetic or antihistamine on the affected area to help prevent itching and swelling.
39. Take painkillers, such as paracetamol (if the sting or bite is very painful).
40. Don't scratch the area, as it may become infected.
41. Consult your GP if redness and itching does not clear up after 48 hours.

## Have fun outdoors in safety

Summer is a great time for children to get out and experience the world around them. You do need to be aware of safety issues, but this isn't a reason to stop children enjoying activities.

42. Nominate a responsible adult to supervise the children at parties and barbecues.
43. Make sure one adult stays sober to supervise the children.
44. Ask hosts to place medicines and cleaning products out of sight and out of reach.
45. Check the garden regularly for potential hazards, such as tools, ponds or water butts.
46. If children are around barbecues, watch that they don't get too close to hot surfaces.
47. Protect your child from the sun.
48. Be safe around water with your child.
49. Consider taking a first aid course.
50. Follow all these simple steps and you'll be guaranteed a fun and action-packed summer in the sun.

For more help and advice visit your local pharmacist,

call NHS Direct on **0845 46 47** or go to [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

**take the...**



**right...**



**steps to...**



For more help and advice from protecting yourself this summer,  
visit your local pharmacist, call **NHS Direct** on

**0845 46 47**

or visit **NHS Choices** online at **[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)**



**stay safe**